

# THE NONCONFORMIST.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXI.—NEW SERIES, No. 800.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27, 1861.

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The Committee of this Society earnestly APPEAL for AID. There are at present upwards of two hundred pensioners on the funds, but it is the anxious desire of the Committee to raise this number to one thousand before the close of 1861. There are several thousands of utterly destitute blind persons in this country, who, from other afflictions in addition to their blindness, or from having lost their sight late in life, are quite unable to earn their daily bread; it is on behalf of such as these the Society asks for HELP.

The mode of administering relief is by pensions of Half-a-Crown per week, or by temporary relief of 6s. or 2s. 6d. per month, until they can be placed permanently on the 2s. 6d. per week list, which is accomplished by rotation. The Society is desirous of extending relief, regardless of creed or denomination, to every blind person of good moral character, who shall possess the necessary qualifications—BLINDNESS and WANT.

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**THE ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN, REEDHAM, near CROYDON, (late at Stamford Hill).**

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**THE ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN, REEDHAM, near CROYDON, (late at Stamford-hill).**

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The Board are very desirous of increasing the number and amount of annual subscriptions; they have promised to double theirs for five years, trusting that many may be induced to follow their example. They are making vigorous efforts to reduce the debt on the building—5,000L by Midsummer.

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NOTE.—A corresponding additional amount must be paid for every additional sum assured.

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25	6 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>	12 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i>	11 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>
30	6 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	12 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>	11 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>
35	6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	12 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>	11 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
40	6 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i>	12 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>	11 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>
45	6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>	12 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>	11 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
50	6 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>	12 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>	12 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
55	1 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>	2 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>	2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	5 <i>d.</i>
60	1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i>	2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>	6 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>

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# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXI.—NEW SERIES, No. 800.]

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### THE MARLBOROUGH CHURCH-RATE WASH.

Most of our readers will remember a description which some two or three months back went the round of the daily journals, giving an account of a wash, invented by a gentleman whose name we cannot at this moment recall, for the preservation of stone buildings from the corrosion of atmospheric agencies. It was set forth as extremely simple, cheap and effectual. Any stonemason's labourer could mix it, and with a brush apply it to the surface of a crumbling edifice. In the course of a few hours it was said to harden into a kind of enamel which defied the action of the most powerful solvents the air contains. The Duke of Marlborough has just made known to the Lords an analogous discovery applicable to Church-rates. He finds the system rapidly passing away under a process of disintegration. Whilst others are hoping to see an end of it before long, his Grace is anxious to preserve whatever remains of it from the touch of decay. He has therefore invented a wash which, although it makes no pretence of restoring what is irrecoverably lost, will have the effect of arresting the destructive process which is eating away its substance; and he thinks that if he can but prevail upon Parliament to apply it, the interesting relic of mediæval times may be yet handed down to the admiration of posterity.

According to the Duke's own description of the Bill which he is sanguine enough to hope "will embody a more or less satisfactory settlement of the question," and "remove a constant cause of irritation and hostility," its objects appear to be these:—First, he intends by it to simplify the process of recovering Church-rates where they are levied. Secondly, he wishes to preserve to every parish the right, and, to a certain extent, to restore where it is lost the power, of imposing upon itself a tax for the maintenance of the Church of England edifice and services. Thirdly, where the rate can be easily levied he will leave the parishes just as they are, untouched by the provisions of his Bill. Lastly, where the rate can no longer be levied because refused by a majority of the vestry, he will introduce a system of exemption which will allow such as are fond of compulsion in religious matters to tax themselves for the expenses of their own Church. The effect of the Bill would be to get a rate as easily as possible wherever it can be got at all—and where it cannot now be got at all, to exempt dissentients and disqualify them, in order to restore to minorities the privilege of resorting to law in place of voluntary contribution.

The first main object of the Bill is to simplify and render more stringent the provisions made by law for the recovery of a Church-rate when levied. This is to be done by assimilating the process to that pursued for the recovery of a Poor's-rate—withdrawing the whole matter from

the cognisance of Ecclesiastical Courts, and giving to the magistracy authority to decide in all cases of dispute. The Duke actually thinks that "the irritation against Church-rates had its origin in the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts," that Dissenters do not object "to pay rates for the maintenance of the fabrics," but that they regard "with terror and apprehension the possibility of being involved in proceedings so expensive and dilatory as those of the Ecclesiastical Courts." He therefore holds out to them, as a boon which he seems to have no doubt they will highly and gratefully appreciate, a quicker and cheaper method of extracting coin for Church purposes out of their pockets. This is the first ingredient in his Church-rate wash, and he looks upon its efficacy to preserve the system as truly marvellous.

The second ingredient of the Bill is more original, and scarcely less restorative. The Bill, we are told, retains in full efficiency the common law right inherent in the constitution of parishes to tax themselves. Under cover of a lawyer's crotchet to the effect that parochial majorities have an inherent constitutional right to tax minorities for anything that they want, the Duke of Marlborough aims at smuggling back into those parishes which have long since abolished Church-rates, the old machinery of ecclesiastical taxation which is to work co-extensively with the area of the parish where it can, but which, where it cannot, is to be adapted to more limited operations. Thus, we suppose, the dogma of the common law that it is the duty of every parish to provide all things necessary for the maintenance of the parish church, and for the due celebration of divine worship therein, is to be affirmed by statute-law, and provisions made accordingly for giving it a practical value.

The provisions are these. Parishes are to be divided into two categories, and as they may happen to fall within one or the other, means are to be afforded them of complying in every instance with the common law demand. There are parishes in which the influence of the parson and the squire is paramount and uncontested. In these, no rate which is asked for is ever refused. Here, therefore, the existing Church-rate machinery is to be left undisturbed. In most of them a few Dissenters may reside—but as they are too few or too powerless to resist the imposition of the rate, they are to have no claim for exemption.

But there is another class of parishes in which it is impossible to carry a Church-rate in vestry. It is for such parishes that the Duke of Marlborough reserves his tender mercies. Where the imposition of a rate has been refused for two years successively, making it tolerably certain that the impost has been practically repealed for ever, his Grace steps in with the principle of exemption. The churchwardens are here to send round to all parishioners a paper on which each is to subscribe a declaration to the effect that he does or does not wish his name to be placed "on the register of persons entitled to vote on Church matters." Those who sign this declaration affirmatively are to be allowed to levy a rate upon themselves. Those who sign negatively are to be exempt from the tax, and to surrender with their liability their vestry rights. It is a very clever contrivance conceived in the true State-Church spirit. "Heads, I win—tails, you lose," is an exact description of it. Exemption is not to be offered until it has been rendered unnecessary—and it is then to be forced upon dissentients at the cost price of their powers and privileges as vestrymen. The Dissenters are to be included where they can do no harm—where they are strong enough to assert their own liberty they are forthwith to be ousted.

And this is the Bill which the Duke of Marlborough flatters himself will be accepted as a satisfactory settlement of a question exposed, this very day, to the reiterated condemnation of a majority of the people's representatives, in the House of Commons. Whilst the battle is raging between those who would abolish the whole

system as a nuisance, and those who would retain it in a modified form, and whilst it is still uncertain whether the former will not retain the superiority which they have repeatedly obtained over the latter, this simple Duke comes between the combatants and proffers terms which are wholly in favour of the claims of the weaker party, and fancies they will remove all occasion of further strife. It is just like the conduct of the Southerners in the United States. The national vote has condemned them—but they are nothing abashed. The compromises they offer are all based on the unfounded hypothesis that they are offering terms to the defeated party. We thank the Duke of Marlborough for his Bill. Should his party prove victorious in this day's division, we hope he will carry it. We can promise him in that event that the opposition which he professedly aims and hopes to appease will assume much more formidable proportions, and will take a much more dangerous direction than it has ever yet done. But we apprehend that no such alleviation of disappointment is in store for us. Whatever may be the fate of Sir John Trelawny's measure, we are convinced that such a transparently silly Bill as that which his Grace has laid upon the table of the House of Lords will not be suffered to proceed beyond its initiatory stage. It too much resembles the recommendation of a brother of his order who, when people were fainting for want of bread, suggested the desirableness of their appeasing their hunger with ratafia cakes.

### TO-DAY'S DIVISION

At a recent meeting of Fenny Stratford, Mr. Hoare, the originator and treasurer of the "Church Institution," said:—"The Church must move in her strength. Who can doubt that Churchmen, duly united and properly officered, can return a House of Commons? If need were, she could compel a House of Commons to re-enact the Dissenters' Disabilities Bill, and on the other hand, remove Roman Catholics from the Legislature." It may be thought that Mr. Hoare, in this swaggering speech, has exaggerated the strength of the Established Church. But whether or not that be the case, to-day's division in the second reading of the Church-Rate Abolition Bill will test his accuracy. It is certain, however, that the rejection of Sir John Trelawny's Bill has been made a life and death question with the 14,000 clergy of England, from the mitred prelate to the humble curate. The House of Commons has probably never before been subjected to such clerical pressure as is now being brought to bear upon it. Even bishops do not disdain to canvas honourable members with a view to persuade them to vote against the Bill, or to stay away. This day, perchance, the House of Commons, after having had the Church-rate grievance before it for more than a quarter of a century, and voted for its removal by overwhelming majorities, may at last resolve that it shall be perpetuated, and that Church ascendancy shall be maintained. When we find that the Opposition are whipping as sedulously against the Bill as though it were a question of confidence in the Government,—that their leaders have persuaded several—perhaps we should say all—the Conservatives who have heretofore voted for the Bill, to absent themselves, with a view to serve their party—when it is believed that not a few Whigs, careless of their party interests, have been induced, by clerical importunity, to withhold their votes—and, lastly, with the indications afforded by the letter of Mr. Vincent Scully, M.P., that Sir John Trelawny will obtain less Irish support even than last year:—it is quite possible that the majorities of former sessions may this day be turned into a minority, and the abolition of Church-rates refused by the House of Commons as well as the House of Lords.

While complete uncertainty as to the result of to-day's division prevails amongst those who may

be held to be best informed, we cannot be expected to offer any opinion on the subject, save to express our belief that the question has now attained so much importance that between 550 or 600 members are likely to record their votes, and that the majority, whether for or against abolition, will probably not exceed half-a-dozen. The Conservatives have shown their sense of the gravity of the question by sending Lord Robert Montagu, and choosing his place S. W. Heathcote, to move the rejection of Sir John Trelawny's Bill. It may be supposed that by such an exhibition of energy and ceaseless activity as they have made they expect to gain more than the rejection of this measure—for are they not hoping by this means to inflict a mortal blow on the Government, as well as to open the door to some miserable compromise?

#### THE IRISH LIBERAL MEMBERS AND CHURCH-RATES.

The following appeared in the *Star and Dial* of yesterday:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "STAR AND DIAL."

Sir,—Enclosed is a copy of my answer to a circular recently received from Mr. Edward Miall, formerly a distinguished member of the House of Commons. It appears to have been addressed to all the Irish Liberal members, to none of whom it has, I believe, rather given offence, which I consider unmerited, though differing from much of the reasoning it puts forward. Should my letter suit your columns, I shall feel obliged for its insertion.

Faithfully yours,  
VINCENT SCULLY.

Reform Club, February 25.

Dear Sir.—I have to acknowledge your circular respecting the bill of Sir John Trelawny for the Abolition of English Church-rates, and quite admit your own strong claims upon the Irish Liberals; but I deny altogether that, within recent years, the Liberals of England or Scotland have given "hearty support" to those of Ireland. On the contrary, my own experience has been that, with rare and unmeaning exceptions, the English and Scotch Liberals usually either wholly disregard Irish feelings and interests, or vote, in direct opposition to them, for every coercive or unjust measure proposed by Whig Governments, from which all Irishmen of every creed and shade of politics are hereditarily excluded.

As natural results, those Irish members who still sit on the Liberal benches have, within twenty years, dwindled from seventy to thirty-five, and the Irish Catholic members, within five years, from forty-five to thirty votes, with every prospect of further decrease. Those plain figures, and not "inadvertence," partly account for the disappointment referred to in your circular, that on the third reading of Sir J. Trelawny's bill, only twenty-four Irish members voted for, whilst forty-seven voted against, the abolition of Church-rates.

It was the Irish vote which carried the English Reform Act of 1832, and often ejected the Tories from office. But it is through the Irish vote that the Conservatives now hope to return soon to power; and even expect that, at the pending contest for the county of Cork, they may, for the first time since Reform, gain a supporter from the greater of Irish constituencies.

Unfortunately there is at present no "cordial co-operation" between the English and Irish Liberals, though there may be among a few individual members. For my own part, I have always steadily voted with the English Liberals, except on matters affecting the English Church Establishment, as to which I have hitherto abstained from recording any vote, and for two simple reasons.—First, The English and Scotch Liberals are now "dumb dogs," respecting the Irish Church Establishment, though loud enough in barking at Maynooth. Secondly,—The Protestant members all easily look on, and suffer their own fanatics to brand Catholic gentlemen to their very faces as deliberate perjurers, whenever they venture to vote upon a Church matter; and we are always left to repudiate, as best we can, such "soft imputations."

Therefore it is that I have not yet meddled in a matter which does not directly concern me.

It is also notorious that Protestant electors, especially the Dissenters, absolutely exclude every Catholic from Parliament. They are liberal enough to elect "Jews, Turks, or Atheists, but no Papists." I have lately had occasion to point out to my own constituents of the County of Cork that no Protestant constituency in the three kingdoms returns a Catholic, except Arundel, a small pocket borough of the Catholic house of lords; whilst more than thirty (indeed about forty) Protestant gentlemen are now securely seated for Irish Catholic constituencies.

Should I observe any clear indication of cordial co-operation on the part of English and Scotch Liberals, I, for one, shall support them on all occasions, not inconsistent with the just interests of Ireland. At present I would respectfully suggest, that a wholesome appeal should be addressed to them by your Liberation Society.

I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

EDWARD MIALL, Esq.

Mr. Scully having seen fit to publish his reply to a letter not intended for publicity, we feel that it is now desirable to give the communication which has called forth his response:

2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street, Feb. 13th, 1861.

DEAR SIR.—On behalf of the Parliamentary Committee of the Liberation Society, I venture to trouble you with a few observations in relation to Sir John Trelawny's Bill for the Abolition of Church-rates, the second reading of which had been fixed for the 47th

I am asked to solicit your vote in support of that measure. In acceding to that request, I am, perhaps, allowing my zeal for a public object to undertake a task which may lay me open to some censure. I have no claim upon your favourable consideration. I have no personal influence to use with you—and, if I had, I do not know that I should be justified in bringing it to bear for the settlement of a question which every member of the House of Commons may be presumed to deal with according to his own view of its merits. But there are two or three facts which, on my assumption that the principle of the bill may you concurred, make I think it has some weight with you—and to these I take the liberty of calling your attention.

Between us and the members of parliament and the Dissenters of England there is certainly some political ground in common. This was felt upwards of thirty years ago by that gifted and eminent man, Daniel O'Connell, when he originated a petition in Dublin in favour of the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, and by the Protestant Dissenters who, for the most part, strenuously supported the Catholic Emancipation Bill. I need scarcely remind you that, although at that time we were possessed of but little parliamentary power, we gave our hearty support to Lord Stanley's Bill for the extinction of Church Tax. In later times, the Liberation Society has availed itself of every fair opportunity for obtaining for Roman Catholics all the civil and political rights which it asks for Dissenters, and, in particular, recurred to the late Mr. Fagan whatever aid they could command in carrying his Bill for the Abolition of Ministers' Money in Ireland, for which aid that gentleman publicly acknowledged that he was largely indebted for his success.

It is pretty certain that the Irish Liberal Members of Parliament could they but see fit to give us their hearty assistance, might place Sir John Trelawny's Bill in a fair way of passing into law this session. The measure went through the House of Commons last year, though, unfortunately, by dwindling majorities. On both occasions on which a vote was taken, I regret to say, the weight of Ireland was thrown into the scale against it—on the second reading 47 Irish representatives voted against the measure, while only 23 voted in its favour—on the third reading 47 against, and but 24 for.

It is painful to the Committee of the Liberation Society to find the object they have so much at heart, removed to a further distance from them by the preponderating vote of Ireland. They cannot think that this comes of design. They have no reason to distrust Irish generosity when fairly appealed to. They conclude that as the question is one of English politics, the unfortunate result I have stated above may have come about through inadvertence. Under this impression, they deem it but just to Irish Liberal M.P.'s, that the facts should be brought under their notice. A copy of this letter has, accordingly, been forwarded to each of them; and, in the name of the committee, I venture an urgent request that you, dear Sir, will lend your influence with your colleagues to secure their support for Sir J. Trelawny's Bill through all its stages.

Begging you to pardon me the liberty I have taken in addressing you,

I am, Dear Sir, yours faithfully,  
(Signed on behalf of the) EDWARD MIALL,  
Parliamentary Committee Chairman pro hoc vice  
of the Liberation Society.)

In a very tempestuous article on the subject, appealing to the Irish Liberals to reconsider their resolution, the *Morning Star and Dial* says:—

But is it true that English Church-rate Abolitionists are indifferent to the rights or wrongs of Irish Catholics? Not to speak of the historic conflicts that were waged under Daniel O'Connell and Joseph Hume—of the part borne by Protestant Dissenters in the removal of Catholic disabilities, or in the abolition of that Irish form of Church-rate known as vestry cess—what have been their relations during the last ten years? The Dissenters did, to some extent, participate in the panic which produced the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; but they also furnished, in the persons of their most eminent politicians, and in several of the great towns, the only signal exception to that state of angry alarm. Mr. Bright and Mr. Miall opposed themselves, with the most resolute courage, to the prevailing delusion, and were supported by many of the men whose names appear in the list of delegates to the recent anti-Church-rate conference. The same eminent Nonconformists were the first to replace among political topics the Irish Protestant Church; and if Mr. Miall had retained his seat, that question would doubtless have been brought up every session,—effectually superseding Mr. Spooner's annual attack upon Maynooth. In the absence from the House of Commons of the Nonconformist leader, no Irish member has thought proper to raise the question, or he would certainly have received all the support which the Liberation Society could give him, in and out of the House. That assertion is justified by the aid actually rendered on the only matter about which Irish Catholics have exerted themselves. The abolition of Ministers' Money in Ireland was acknowledged by the late Mr. Fagan, its persevering advocate, to have been largely aided by the men of whom Mr. Vincent Scully says they are dumb dogs except in barking at Maynooth. And of that exception it may be worth while to observe, that if the Dissenters of England and Scotland were to "bark" as loudly as they could, Mr. Spooner would not lack a commanding majority. It is chiefly because the Nonconformist watchdogs refuse to worry the one poor lamb of Irish Romanism while the rich flocks of Irish Protestantism are securely folded, that Maynooth is no longer an annual occasion of fierce and bitter strife. That Dissenters suffer Catholic gentlemen to be branded "to their very faces as deliberate perjurers, whenever they venture to vote upon a Church matter," is an accusation so vague and almost puerile that we fear it must cover some latent cause of alienation. And as to the allegation that no independent English constituency returns a Catholic member, it may be explained by the melancholy fact, that English Catholics of the class usually returned as members, are so little Liberal as to be equally unacceptable to popular constituencies on either side of the Channel.

If we are beaten in this Church-rate battle we may have forced upon us some degrading compromise. Behind Lord Robert Montagu in the ranks of Dissenters, English Dissenters like new gallants in harness, by English Dissenters are the posts conquered, by their

aid, for Irish Catholicism. Let not our Hibernian friends think that we can fail and they incur no danger. Let them not dream that their own monster grievance can be attacked with advantage while our minor but galling wrong remains unredressed. Let them give us to-morrow every vote they can command, and we promise them that English and Scottish Nonconformists will be as truly as themselves for an assault upon the grosser forms of the hateful principle of ascendancy.

#### THE BURIAL OF DISSENTERS BILL.

In the Postscript of our last number we inserted a bare outline of the speech of Sir Morton Peto, Bart., on moving for and obtaining leave on the previous evening (Tuesday) to introduce a bill to make further provision with respect to the burial of persons not being members of the Church of England. We now subjoin a full report of that address:

SIR MORTON PETO: Mr. Speaker, the object of the bill of which I have given notice, and which I now ask the House to permit me to introduce and to be read the first time, is to remove a grievance under which all classes of Nonconformists at the present moment suffer, and which they deem to be a serious disability: and I assure the House that in its introduction I am actuated by no feeling of hostility to the Church of England. On the contrary, I believe that were the measure I ask to introduce, to become the law of the land, one of the causes of offence now existing would be removed; and if the Church of England is to prosper, I am sure it can only be by the exercise of large-minded, large-hearted charity—by the adaptation of itself to the spirit of the times—and by its seeking the good of the community at large; not by exclusive action, but by an earnest co-operation in works of faith and labour of love with all those denominations of Christians, who, while differing in forms of worship and views of ecclesiastical polity, are yet united in the belief that the Bible is the only rule of faith, and the revealed will of God the only guide to fallible man.

In the reign of Charles II., in the year 1661, the rubric of the Church of England, founded on an Act of Parliament, became law, and in that rubric there are three classes excommunicate from Christian burial—the suicide, the excommunicate, and the unbaptized. Now there is a large class of her Majesty's subjects holding the New Testament as their sole guide of matters of Church discipline, and as their only rule of faith, who baptize only those persons who by credible evidence show sincere repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and thus their children, who are unbaptized, suffer the disability of the loss of Christian burial, and they themselves the indignity of being buried with the excommunicate and the suicide. There is another class of her Majesty's subjects, of whom there are some four or five honourable members of this House (I refer to the Society of Friends), who hold the ordinance of baptism not binding on their consciences, and who do not practice it in their communion. Now I would at once ask—to refer to but instances in that communion, the late Mrs. Fry—whether there is one honourable member of this House who would for a moment, having reference to her holy life, her unceasing benevolence, her thorough devotion to all that is good, feel that that could be just which would refer to her Christian burial, and class her with the self-styled excommunicate.

I must now ask the kindness of the House in permitting me to show them that this is no mere sentimental grievance. I must first refer to an event which occurred in the county of Norfolk, during the past year. The child of some Primitive Methodists died, nine months old. On applying to the clergyman of the parish he permitted the child to be buried, but no service to be said. Outside the churchyard an address was given, and prayer was offered to Almighty God. After the child had been interred, two verses of a beautiful hymn were sung on returning from the grave by the mourning family and friends. A prosecution was instituted by the clergyman for this offence, and under what Act does the House suppose the prosecution was granted? The one passed last year to remedy the disturbances which have so disgracefully characterised the services of St. George's-in-the-East, and which provides for the punishment of persons who shall be "guilty of rioting, violent, indecent conduct and behaviour in any cathedral church, parochial church, district church—or burial ground—or molest, vex, disquiet or molest any preacher." The magistrates trying the case were two clergymen of the Church of England, the parson of the living, and the lay proprietor of the tithes of the parish, who fined the poor peasant the sum of fourteen shillings. Now does the House for a moment conceive that such an act as this could be beneficial to the Church itself, could be conducive to Christian Union, or be likely either to increase the power or extend the communion of the Church?

I must now call the kind attention of the House to another case. The Rev. Mr. Long, of Newton Flotman, in Norfolk, has, for several years, been in the habit of carting soil from the north side of his churchyard for the manuring of his glebe. This last autumn he took away about fifty cart-loads. This caused much disturbance in his parish, and excited much observation in the entire district. On the matter being taken serious notice of, what does the House suppose Mr. Long's excuse to be? Why, that the portion of the churchyard from which he had carted the soil, was the part which had been used for a great many years for the burial of the unbaptized. A gentleman of Norwich went to Newton Flotman to inquire into the truth of this case, and on going into the rectory glebe, found the evidence over the entire soil; and in the offices of the late Mayor of Norwich may be seen by any honourable member who may visit that city, a skull-bone taken from the glebe itself. Now, does the House imagine that that class of her Majesty's subjects, which according to the last census comprises a majority, can view the fact of the very bones of the deceased being used by a clergyman of the Church of England for the purposes of manure, and yet retain any friendly opinion, or desire for any co-operation with an establishment which contains within its own ranks men who can do harm and disgrace themselves? Happily, I believe their number is but few, and my twelve years' experience

of this House feeds me to know how strong a feeling of separation such conduct would meet with here.

I could adduce almost numberless cases of absolute refusal to bury, and their attendant civil consequences. Amongst many, I select the case of Hopton, in Norfolk. Where the parsonage have to take their children which are interred, a distance of six miles to a churchyard, where the strictness is more liberal. My position, too, as treasurer of the Baptist Missionary Society, occasions my often being appealed to in cases of this kind—and sometimes these officials are troubled with that which can only be deemed insulting, such as permission to bury in the middle of the night—the sexton himself not being allowed to dig the grave.

I believe, sir, this act, if passed by the House would be held generally by the clergy of the Church of England as a measure of relief to themselves. At least, the opinion of the Archbishop of Canterbury given for their conduct would lead me to that conclusion. Some time since on being applied to for his view as to what should be done in such cases—his answer was "that he would suggest that no curious inquiries should be made in instances where burial was required for children." Now, sir, I can easily conceive that where the conduct of the clergyman is determined by religious principle, and not by maxims of mere policy; where he has given his "assent and consent" to all that the rubric contains—such advice would not remove the difficulty left; and I therefore trust I shall have the support of the whole body of the clergy in this matter. With regard to the case of the suicide or self-murderer, my bill is, in no way intensive. It has been the custom, I believe, of all civilised nations to refuse Christian burial to such cases, and Sir John Nicholl says, "Self-murders or suicides are supposed to die in the commission of mortal sin, and in the contempt of the Saviour and his presence, and to have renounced Christianity." Now, in this regard to the excommunicate the canons of the Oxford place all Nonconformists in the realm in this position of disability—whether they be ministers or laymen. Nay more, sir, I believe a very large body of Nonconformist clergymen in this House are at this present moment ipso facto excommunicate, for if these canons are enforced the representatives of no persons could claim Christian burial unless they could show "that they had received the Holy Sacrament at least at the previous Easter." Now, my bill will have the merit of removing honourable members of this House from this disability, and I trust they will see with me that if canon law is good for one it is good for all, for that law cannot be entitled to the respect of the community which is only partially administered. Now, sir, with the permission of the House, I will proceed shortly to describe the clauses in the Bill and their effects.

Clause 1 provides for the burial of all unbaptized persons, and all Nonconformists (who are at present ipso facto declared to be excommunicate, quo non) without the use of the burial service in the Prayer-

In the case of persons who have made a will, their executors or trustees may give notice to that effect; and in the case of persons dying intestate, their relations who provide for the funeral may do so.

Clause 2 makes the appointment of any person not being a clergyman to conduct a burial service. This point being used because it permits Quakers to hold a service in consonance with their own views, though none of their recognised "Ministers" be present, and because it includes all Nonconformist ministers.

"Clause 3 is based upon the terms of the rubric, which requires "intimation" notice to be given to the minister of the parish, and provides against any clash with the services of the Church, by requiring him to receive a reasonable time for the burial. The difficulty lies in giving him the notice. Some gentlemen do not reside in their parishes. Several live at distances of from four to ten miles. Others are occasionally absent during the week; and although their functions may be discharged by neighbouring clergymen during such absence, it is evident that those gentlemen could not fulfil the ministerial appointment.

To provide for all such cases, therefore, it is proposed to use the post-office, and in case no appointment is made within twenty-four hours, the burial may be arranged for by the parties conducting the funeral, *sine premissa causa*—after the expiration of twenty-four hours since from the delivery of such notice, to have the laying of the same at the post-office, to be forwarded to Broadland, the time being limited to twenty-four hours to provide for unusual epidemics.

Clause 3 makes payment of all fees legally due and payable. The necessity of dealing with the variable charges of the different parishes is thereby obviated.

Sir, having described the clauses of the bill, and having shown the House its necessity, it is my duty to adduce a still stronger argument in its favour than any which I have yet used—the class of argument which will have weight with the House than any which can be cited—viz., that of precedent.

By the 5th of George IV., cap. 25, applicable to Ireland, the law is as follows:—"That it is not necessary that any officiating minister of the Church of Ireland shall celebrate the service unless by particular desire; and further, that ministers of other congregations or churches may do so." Now, the object of my bill is simply to assimilate the law of England to that of Ireland. I have made inquiries of those best informed, and I learn the consequences of this act to be everything that can be desired. Where heart-burning and discontent previously existed, arising from the disability to which I have referred, a feeling of satisfaction and content has taken place. The Church of Ireland itself has not been injured, its privileges have not been curtailed, and yet these good results have been realized. And why, sir, should we object to copy from the sister country, when only good can be anticipated as the result?

I can assure the House that all that Nonconformists desire is to be left to carry out their convictions of truth and duty. They claim only that which they are justly entitled to have, and short of which nothing will content them, viz., equal rights and privileges with their brethren of the Church of England. I gratefully acknowledge in this House that its course of legislation within the last few years has tended to this good end, and that the good work will go on for the Church of England there can be no room for

any other course but that of punishment. The solution of the

Test Act and other measures have done much to create a better feeling, and I beseech the House not to hesitate in its onward course. What is the first book which you place in the hands of children, which most interests them? Is it not the "Pilgrim's Progress" of John Bunyan? And yet the spirit which dictated this rubric imprisoned John Bunyan himself for twelve years in Bedford jail. And Nonconformists have their martyrology as extensive in its character as any that Fox ever wrote. But I rejoice that in the present day a better feeling exists. You do not value Milton's immortal works the less because they were written by a Nonconformist—and I beseech you to join with me in an effort to prevent our differences being exhibited at the grave, where, at least, we might hope the differences of life would be forgotten, and the mourners be permitted to consign to their last resting-place the precious remains of their friends in that way which would be most in consonance with their own feelings and those of the deceased.

I beg, sir, to move the introduction of the bill.

The bill stood for second reading last night, but has been postponed to a future day.

#### THE CLERICAL "POUND OF FLESH."

The following paragraphs will show that the attempts to support the Gospel by compelling Dissenters to pay their quota to the support of the clergy of the Established Church, its ordinances, and its continuance, are well sustained:—

On Thursday another batch of residents of Accrington were summoned before Mr. Worsley, at the Court House, Accrington, for non-payment of Easter-dues claimed from them by the Rev. Robert Newell Whalley, vicar of Whalley. They were 11 in number, and their names were—George Barnes, John Oldfield; Jas. Bentley, John Barton, James Whalley, William Bradley, John Fish, Ebenezer Halsall, James Sykes, Lawrence Rushworth, and Hugh Russell. The sum claimed in each instance was 4d. for "house debt," and 4d. for each communicant. Mr. Charles Hall, of Accrington, appeared to support the claim; and Mr. Sykes, of Bury, attended for the defence, on behalf of the Anti-Clerical Association. The defence set up was that the Easter-dues were, according to the canons of the Church of England, payable only by those persons who were actual communicants at the table of the Lord's Supper; that the ecclesiastical claimants, or those who worshipped in other conveniences than those of the Established Church, were excommunicated *ipso facto*, and that they were therefore except from payment. Mr. Sykes contended further that no custom, in the legal meaning of that term, had been proved, inasmuch as it should be certain, whence various sums had been claimed by the vicar's collector as due to him. One of the defendants, Swain, severely cross-examined the collector, and at great length addressed the court; arguing that he was not a communicant, he having never partaken of the sacrament of the Lord's supper in any of the churches in the parish of Whalley, and defying either the vicar, his collector, or his collector to prove when and which church he ever received the elements from the Vicar of Whalley. He also said that the Vicar of Whalley should have appeared in court in *propria persona* to enforce his claim of the debt, as required of prosecutors in county courts; and that the Vicar of Whalley had not given him any equivalent for what he was now called to pay.—The bench ultimately gave orders for the payment of the debt, with 10s. costs in each case, except in two cases, in one of which the vicar's solicitor withdrew the charge, on the ground of a technical objection; and the other was adjourned for adjudication for a fortnight, the defendant being ill. There was intense excitement, and scores could not gain admission to the court. Most of the recusants expressed their determination not to pay.

The Edinburgh Annuity Tax still hangs fire—the Town Council being puzzled to know how to do with it, in the face of thousands of protesting ratepayers. Two English counsel of the highest legal attainments, have proclaimed the Act a botch,—and two Scotch counsel, warned and toned down by being confronted with these eminent juriconsults, now confess that "the legality of the assessments imposed by the memorials (the Town Council) under the Act of 1860 being seriously disputed, the memorials should lose no time in bringing the question to judgment in the Court of Session." Such was the spirit of the report presented at the last meeting of the Council by the Lord Provost's Committee. On that occasion Baillie Johnson moved:—

That the Magistrates and Council approve of the report, in so far as it recommends an amicable suit to be instituted for the purpose of obtaining a decision on the various questions under the Annuity-tax Act, and that it be remitted to the Lord Provost's Committee in terms of the report contained in the first branch of the report.

This motion was, after some discussion, adopted by 33 to 3. Mr. DUNCAN M'LARKY then moved:—

That the Council having considered the letter of Mr. R. S. Grieve, of the 11th inst., addressed to the Magistrates and Council, in which he tendered payment of 4f. 10s. to account of the charge made against him in the name of the police assessment, being at the rate of 1s. 3d. per pound on the assessable rental, but declining to pay his balance of 5s. 4d.; and having also considered the two opinions of counsel recently obtained by the Magistrates and Council, with reference to the assessment, resolve that the collectors be instructed to accept of the said sum of 4f. 10s. to account of the charge in his books against Mr. Grieve, and in acknowledging receipt of the sum to show by such receipt that the balance of 5s. 4d. still remains to pay; and that the collector be likewise instructed to follow the same course in all similar cases, when payments of accounts are tendered at the rate of 1s. 3d. per pound, without attempting to attach any special conditions to the accepting of such payment.

Dr. MITCHELL seconded the motion. Baillie Johnson opposed the motion in a speech of some length,

and moved the previous question, which, after considerable discussion, was carried by the narrow majority of 19 to 17. Mr. McLaren's motion was accordingly lost.

Apparently anxious of the clerical visitors of Edinburgh and Accrington, the Rev. Gibson Lucas, rector of St. Lawrence, Southampton, last week took proceedings before the borough magistrates to recover minister's dues from several of his parishioners. We take the particulars of one case from the *Hants Independent*:—

Mr. Dowman, of the High-street, chemist, was next summoned for 1s. 4d., two years' minister's dues.

Mr. Palk: Do you dispute the claim?

Defendant: I do.

The Rev. Gibson Lucas then proved the case, after which

The defendant said: Have you applied to me for 21s.

Mr. Lucas: I have for 2ds.

Defendant: But the minister's dues are not that amount.

Mr. Stebbing said that the question should only be put with a view to elicit further information from the evidence already adduced. Mr. Dowman, when he had put a question, after receiving an answer, should not make an assertion.

Defendant: Do you, in your summons, sue me for clerk's dues?

Mr. Lucas: I sue for minister's dues.

Defendant: I ask this question because I have in my possession a receipt for minister's and clerk's dues, when no clerk is employed.

Mr. Lucas: The reason of that was that the clerk received one quarter of the sum for their collection. I believe the clerk has no legal right to any.

Defendant: Nor have you either. (Laughter.)

Mr. Stebbing: You must not proceed in this irregular manner.

Mr. Dowman said he considered it a moral wrong and an injustice for a minister of religion to make this demand upon him, who had received nothing from either the vestry committee or the church. He had given the church of St. Lawrence, and yet he was summoned to pay to the support of the minister who resided. To his mind, it was entirely against the spirit of the British constitution.

After some further proceedings, Mr. Dowman, as well as others of the summoned, was remitted, but he said he should appeal to Quarter Sessions against the decision of the Bench.

In the same county there has been a "warrant of distress" granted against a Dissenter, Edward the Winchester, bailiff of constables for Great St. Jacob, churchwarden of St. Thomas, against 10s. a warrant of distress on the goods of Joseph Whalley, for non-payment of a Church-rate of 2s. 4d., and costs 2s. 4d., which was granted, but not enforced.

Broadway, Worcestershire, has been the scene of another clerical scandal, and similar of an性质, consequent upon the vicar, Rev. William Bratt, having attempted to force his parishioners to pay Easter Offerings. There has been as much contention on the question that the Vicar of Broadway has not for this man appointed by law to have the care of the parishioners. It appears that the Vicar was what the magistrates denoted as "disorderly and abusive," and that a gun has been fired at his residence. The Chief Constable of the county has been obliged to interfere by increasing the number of constables and making Broadway instead of Breftor the police sergeant's station.

#### LECTURES ON THE STATE-CHURCH QUESTION.

On Tuesday evening the third of the series of lectures on Religious Voluntarism was delivered in the Lecture Hall of the Mechanics' Institution, Manchester, by the Rev. H. W. Parkhurst, of Reddale. The room was again crowded to unusual. Mr. B. Arbitrage presided. The subject was, "The Political Relations and Influence of the Established Church." From the report given in the *Manchester Standard*, the lecture appears to have been a valuable one. The following is an extract bearing on the political subjection of the Church:—

In England, during Saxon times, all ecclesiastical dignities were conferred by the king in Parliament. After many contests, bishops came to be elected by chapters of monks or canons; but by the 2nd Henry VIII., cap. 20, the right of nomination was restored to the Crown. Under the papal rule, this was in the House of Lords along with the mitred abbots; and, so far as landed property gave a qualification for election, they were rightfully there. (Laughter.) In 1549 the bishops were in considerable danger of being released from their ecclesiastical functions; Parliament having appointed them to claim the right to dispossess them. A bill was passed in with this intention by Sir Edward Derby, and was carried on the second reading by 129 to 100. Ordinately, Charnwood so obstructed the bill in committee that no progress could be made before the adjournment; although a resolution was affirmed that the taking away the offices of archbishops, bishops, chancellors, and commissioners out of this Church and Kingdom should be one clause of the bill. He would only give one more proof of the Parliamentary subjection of the Establishment. Convocation used to be a kind of ecclesiastical Parliament, having the power to enact canons, and to determine the amount of taxation to be paid by the clergy; but of the first of these powers it was deprived by Henry VIII., and the second it lost in 1549, from which time the clergy have been taxed at the same rate and in the same manner with the laity. Several efforts have been made by the High-Church party to revive its authority, but they have successively failed. Whenever Convocation was summoned, its first and only act was by a spasmodic effort to adjourn itself sine die. (Laughter.) Thus on the one hand, the Establishment arrogated to itself an authority for which it had no scriptural title, and enforced taxation by law and maintenance, in opposition to the spirit of Christianity; on the other hand, it was compelled to submit to a general assembly, which reluctantly yielded to it as a temporary measure. It cannot elect its own religious teachers, or

settle its own articles of faith, or more equitably distribute its own funds; and it barter away the rights and the liberties with which Christ has invested his Church, for the mess of State pottage, which is the payment of her humiliation in becoming the servant of the civil power, and the scandal of Christianity. (Applause.)

The lecturer then proceeded to give some faint conception of the enormous political influence of the State Church at the present time:

The constitution, most unjustly, associated the throne with the defence of a particular sect of religionists, who were only a subordinate fraction of the millions over whom the sovereign reigned. The House of Lords was interpenetrated with the same element. Twenty-eight peers had seats solely on account of their ecclesiastical position, and, nominated by the Government of the day, they were bound to do its service as the price of their dignities. The great popular legislative victories of the last thirty years had been the Catholic Emancipation Bill, the Reform Bill, and the repeal of the corn laws. A large majority of the bishops opposed the first-named two measures, and even when the repeal of the Corn Laws was carried there were yet nine bishops who voted against it. ("Shame.") After referring to the ecclesiastical commission which had been appointed to inquire into the revenues of the bishops, to show how nearly impossible it was to reform ecclesiastical abuses, he went on to point out how exceedingly powerful still was the ecclesiastical element in the House of Commons. Beyond the pale of the legislature the Establishment possessed legislatures of her own. She demanded that that education of the country should be confided to her care. The universities might be national in name, but they were given up to the dominion of a sect which required that the teachers and the taught should alike belong to her communion. Even the tributary streams were under the same control. The students came up to those walls of learning from public and foundation schools, many of them as much national property as the universities themselves, but were dragged into the service of one religious denomination. A great army of nearly 20,000 clergy, stationed over the whole country, still further extended this oppressive influence. One-half divided amongst them ecclesiastical endowments nearly equal to the Church endowments of all the rest of Europe, whilst the other half laboured on a scanty pittance, which left them steeped to the lips in poverty. They were all, however, faithful to the cause of the Establishment; the one party rejoicing in possession, the other rejoicing in hope. (Loud laughter.) They might be called political Dissenters, but they had no option in the presence of an intensely political Church. (Hear, hear.)

On Thursday evening last, a numerous and respectable audience assembled at the Town Hall, Ashton-under-Lyne, for the purpose of hearing an address from the Rev. J. Gordon, on "The Church of England after the Reformation," which was, to some extent, a reply to a lecture in the same place, by the Rev. Mr. Bardsey, on "The Church of England before the Reformation." Alderman N. Buckley occupied the chair. Mr. Gordon was received with loud cheers as he proceeded to deliver his lecture, in which he maintained these two positions in opposition to the Rev. Mr. Bardsey, of Manchester:—1. That the Church of the Reformation was not the same Church which existed before; that it was not naturally successive to the previous Church, but was created and constituted by law; and that what the law originated, the law can change and abolish. 2. That the present Church Establishment is not truly national in its character; that it is inconsistent with our national interests, political and religious; and that, therefore, its disconnection from the State is justified by considerations of national freedom and advantage. At the close of the lecture, an abstract from which is given in the local *Reporter*, Mr. A. REYNES moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Gordon. The Rev. J. G. ROGERS, in seconding the motion, said it might look rather extraordinary for an Independent minister to rise on that occasion to second a vote of thanks to a Unitarian, but the question was not about advancing either Independency or Unitarianism: it was a question of doing right between man and man.—(Loud cheers.)

Mr. Bardsey assured his audience that they, the Dissenters, who were carrying on the Liberation Society, were themselves receiving a grant of 35,000*l.* a-year in the shape of *Regium donum* from the Government. Now, Mr. Bardsey was utterly unfit to discuss the question by his ignorance of his facts of the case. He ought to know that the Dissenters of England did not take one penny piece from the Government. (Applause.) He ought to know that that 35,000*l.* was paid annually to the Presbyterians of Ireland; and he must know that of all the determined supporters of Church and State, and of all the bitter enemies of the Liberation Society, the Presbyterians of Ireland were about the most decided. He concluded by trusting that ridiculous personalities would not be indulged in future. (Cheers.)

The motion was then put and carried by acclamation. The Rev. Mr. GORDON briefly replied, and proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, after which the proceedings terminated.

#### DR. VILLIERS AND HIS PATRONAGE. (From the *Morning Star* and *Dial*.)

The new Bishop of Durham has just furnished a striking example of the manner in which ecclesiastical patronage is too frequently bestowed. In the town of Darlington there are four parishes, the condition of which affords a strong, but unfortunately by no means unique, illustration of the unequal distribution of clerical remuneration. The incumbent of St. Cuthbert's has 225*l.*; of Holy Trinity, 200*l.*; and of St. John's, 175*l.* per annum—making a total of 600*l.* a-year, the aggregate population of the three parishes amounting to about 15,000 souls. The adjoining parish of Haughton-le-Skerne has a population of 1,000, and the incumbent receives an annual income of 1,300*l.* The latter living having recently become

vacant, the churchwardens of the other three parishes addressed a memorial to the Bishop, embodying what certainly seems to be a very reasonable prayer. Averring that the northern districts of the parishes of St. Cuthbert and Holy Trinity, immediately contiguous to Haughton-le-Skerne, contain a large and constantly increasing population, they suggested that a new parish should be formed out of portions taken from each of the three, and fairly endowed out of the excessive revenue of the rich living, and also that the same fund should be drawn upon in order to augment the miserable stipend of the incumbent of St. John's.

The Bishop has declined to accede to these proposals, and the letter in which he conveyed his refusal is an eminently curious one. The memorialists grounded their petition on the fact that a large population exists in these two parishes, to whose spiritual wants it is impossible that the incumbents can minister, their small incomes disabling them from securing the aid of curates. On this point his lordship says not a single word. His arguments simply turn on the question of property in patronage. He says, "It is not very probable that his Grace the Duke of Cleveland would give up the patronage of any of his livings to me"—which it was never suggested that he should do, the proposal being that a new parish should be created, and endowed out of moneys with which the Duke had nothing to do; and he adds, "Certainly it is not just, or even honest, on my part to take the income intrusted to my stewardship to improve the patronage of his Grace." Those funds are assuredly designed to promote the welfare of immortal souls; and if the inhabitants of one parish are suffering through the poverty of their pastor, while the incumbent of another is possessed of superfluous income, there could certainly be neither injustice nor dishonesty in restoring a more equal balance. But the whole question is viewed as one of pounds, shillings, and pence, and the Bishop's answer translated into plain English simply amounts to this:—"The right of presentation to the living of Haughton-le-Skerne is a part of my worldly wealth, the nature of which depends upon the amount of the income attached to it, and I shall not think of diminishing that value, no matter what may be the benefit conferred by the act upon the poor of my diocese." To the gentlemen who deplored the spiritual destitution of portions of the parishes of St. Cuthbert and Holy Trinity, the Bishop gives the consoling intimation that he has bestowed the living of Haughton-le-Skerne—which nobody even suggested was not in all respects abundantly provided for—upon a gentleman of "talent, piety, and pastoral activity," and we trust that these encomiums will prove to have been justly bestowed. But if his lordship had been in a candid mood he would have been a little more explanatory. He would have said:—"Gentlemen, I am perfectly aware that there are in my diocese scores of hard-working clergymen who have toiled for years upon miserably small stipends, and upon one of whom it might have seemed most appropriate that I should have conferred this living, with its annual income of 1,300*l.*, in addition to a spacious mansion and pleasant garden; but I have passed them all over, and given it to the Rev. John Edmund Cheese, a young man of small experience, who has never even had an opportunity of making himself permanently useful in the Church—and I have done this simply because he is my son-in-law." Such is the manner in which the Bishop of Durham has disposed of the first piece of preferment which has come into his hands since his translation from Carlisle. The correspondence which has taken place illustrates in a painful manner that worldliness which is the bane of our State Church; and the scandalous abuse of patronage which has accompanied the refusal to redress a practical grievance, by effecting in one district a fair equalisation of clerical income, assuredly should not be suffered to escape vehement reprobation.

(From the *Times*.)

The appointment has elicited a chorus of remonstrances, and is evidently a scandal to her Majesty's Government, and to the Evangelical section, of which Montagu Villiers was one of the most distinguished ornaments. Such an impression speaks for itself, for it is itself a great evil. It goes far and wide, high and low, that one of the most spiritually-minded men of his age, who was the other day content with moderate means, visiting diligently, preaching much and with effect, is no sooner made a bishop than he does what other bishops do, and shows himself no better than the most worldly of them. The fact of the letters that press for admission to our columns is itself conclusive of something wrong.

Dr. Villiers has sanctioned by his example the lowest use of patronage. His son-in-law may be a good man, but it is not known out of the family circle; and, whatever the bishop's words, his deeds teach all England to regard patronage as a family arrangement or a pecuniary bargain.

#### THE ESSAYS AND REVIEWS.

The following address—which has been signed by the Deans of Carlisle, Lincoln, Ripon, St. Asaph, and Bangor; Dr. Pusey, Regius Professor of Hebrew at Oxford; Archdeacons Denison, Macdonald, Moore, Utterton, and Clive; Bishop Trower, Chancellor Bird, and a large number of other clergymen holding important positions in the Church—will be presented to the Archbishop of Canterbury in the course of a few days:—

May it please your Grace.—We, the undersigned clergy of the United Church of England and Ireland, respectfully request your grace's attention to certain opinions contained in a volume of essays and reviews

recently published, the tendency of which, as it appears to us, is to annihilate the authority of the Bible as the inspired word of God; to reject all miracles (not excepting those of our blessed Lord) as incapable of proof and repugnant to reason; and in one instance, at least, to undermine faith in God as the Creator. These opinions have been promulgated, with one exception, by clergymen of our Church holding positions of great trust, and possessing opportunities favourable in no ordinary degree for the diffusion of error. We therefore earnestly entreat your grace to take counsel with the other members of the episcopate, and to devise such measures as may, with God's blessing, "banish and drive away" from our Church all such "erroneous and strange doctrines." The opinions against which we protest as being repugnant to the natural meaning of our formularies, and inconsistent with the teaching of the Church of England, are expressed in the accompanying extracts from the *Essays and Reviews* to which we refer.—We have the honour to be, your grace's obedient servants.

A long string of extracts from the "Essays and Reviews" will accompany the memorial.

Dr. Jelf has given notice of his intention to move the suspension of the standing orders of Convocation, in order that he may move an address to his grace the president and their lordships the bishops in reference to a volume recently published, entitled "Essays and Reviews."

The *Times* continues to admit letters condemnatory of the episcopal manifesto. On behalf of the thinking laity of England "A Cambridge Graduate" calls for, not a condemnation but a refutation, of the *Essays and Reviews*. He says:—

If they can be met and refuted on their own ground, the publication of the book will have been a blessing to the Church; for we cannot ignore the fact that the thoughts they have expressed have long been floating vaguely through the minds of many. The way in which they have hitherto been handled will increase their influence, I think, upon the mass of English laity; it will increase their influence, I am sure, upon the youth of England.

"Oxonianus," in allusion to the recent appointment of Dr. Villiers, asks if the Bishop might not have chosen a better moment to drive the sharp sword of nepotism into the vitals of his Church, adding—

The Church of England and the Christianity of England may be approaching a time of trial, and sifting, and difficulty. The friends of both might wish these acts of nepotism to be passed over with a sigh or groan. But your columns carry them far and wide, and wherever they are read there will be a sneer at the Church whose rulers condemn their brethren readily enough—condemn them unheard, unwarned, on the strength of an accusation which they do not trouble themselves to produce, and then are reported, with the ink scarcely dry with which they signed their names, to have been guilty, in one of their representative members, of grasping at the Church's property with a haste almost sordid, of treating what has just been committed to one of their body with solemn vows and a solemn service as a matter of mere loot, a means of mere family enrichment.

**THE ATTEMPTS TO SETTLE THE CHURCH-RATE QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.**—A parliamentary return shows that during the last twenty years eighteen bills have been introduced into the House of Commons and two into the House of Lords, in relation to Church-rates. The first was in 1841, by Mr. Easthope and Mr. Hume. The second was in the following year, by Sir J. Easthope and Mr. Mark Philips.

**HOW SOME PRO-CHURCH-RATE PETITIONS ARE GOT UP.**—"Observer," who dates from Bildeston, writes to the *Suffolk Chronicle* as follows:—"A gentleman holding a high office in the parish was requested to sign one of these precious documents, which he positively refused to do, but the party said they must have his name, and actually inserted it in the petition, and it was only by a threat of exposure that his name was erased. This cannot surprise any one with the system of Church robbery." At Winchester, as we learn from the *Hants Independent*, the services and local knowledge of the Scripture Readers have been laid hold of, and used, to obtain signatures to pro-Church-rate petitions in the parish of St. Maurice. In a village not far from Cambridge (a correspondent informs us) a churchwarden who has been very active in obtaining signatures to a petition against the total abolition of Church-rates, took the petition to the *Union-House* of the parish, and solicited the signatures of its inmates. When any reluctance was manifested, the paupers were told that it would be worse for them if they did not sign, when several of the old men accustomed to attend the Baptist Chapel in the village still refused. They were falsely told that two respectable farmers (mentioning their names) who are Dissenters, and resident in the village, had signed the petition.

At Worthing, we are told, a petition in favour of Church-rates was carried from house to house for signatures. The person so employed was to be paid at the rate of 2*s.* 6*d.* for every hundred names. After several days' work he succeeded in procuring fifty-eight signatures.

**CHURCH-RATES AT TOLLESHUNT KNIGHTS, NEAR KELVEDON.**—Opposition to Church-rates caused an unusually large attendance at the parish church on February 7th. On three former occasions the attempt to make a rate has been defeated; on this occasion, a rate of 2*d.* in the pound was carried by a

majority of one. An amendment, "that the rate be raised by voluntary contributions," was refused by the clerical occupant of the chair; but being resolutely adhered to, it was at last put to the meeting. Although the almost universal feeling of the parishioners was against the rate, many who are small tradesmen and of other small occupations are too timid to come forward. Thus the rate was carried by one; but the promoters of the anti-rate movement are still resolved not to pay it, as illegal.

**THE BEST SUBSTITUTE FOR CHURCH-RATES.**—At Woolwich, in consequence of a signal defeat of a Church-rate, the voluntary system was tried last year. The result has been that subscriptions and collections have not only defrayed all the expenses, but have left 100*l.* surplus, which has been given to parochial charities.

**ARE CHURCH-RATES A BURDEN ON PROPERTY?**—“An Abolitionist,” in a letter to the *Daily News*, says:—“That the abolition of Church-rates would relieve the tenants, and not the landlords, has been proved by what has already happened. The exaction has been abolished for years in numerous towns, and the work goes on from year to year; but rents have not been raised, as the result, in any case, so far as I am aware. The parliamentary returns show that the amount yielded by the rate in 1827 was 519,307*l.*, and in the seven years ending 1859 averaged but 263,709*l.* Has it ever been believed that the landowners have put the difference—255,598*l.*—in their pockets?”

**MEMORIALS TO M.P.’S. ON CHURCH-RATES.**—Several of the Stamford constituents of Mr. G. H. Packe have signed a memorial to the hon. gentleman on the subject of his vote last session against the abolition of Church-rates. They trust that he will not feel it his duty, by his future votes, to support the Conservative leader in the reactionary policy on the Church-rate question lately announced by him, “convinced as we are (say they) that such a course, if persisted in by members of the Liberal party in the House of Commons, is not only at entire variance with the claims of religious liberty, but must tend to break up the Liberal party itself.”—A memorial has been forwarded from Kidderminster to the hon. member for the borough, A. R. Bristow, Esq., praying him to support the bill of Sir J. Trelawny, now before the House, for the total abolition of Church-rates. It was signed by seven borough magistrates, including the mayor, five out of the six aldermen, seventeen out of the twenty-four town councillors, and by many of the most influential manufacturers, merchants, and professional gentlemen of the town, many of whom are staunch supporters and members of the Church of England.

**CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE IN AUSTRALIA.**—The Congregationalists of Victoria have decided on erecting a college for the training of young men desirous of entering the ministry. The college will be open to students from all the colonies, and each student will have to consider himself at the disposal of the Board under whose auspices he entered the college. The Rev. Mr. Fletcher is to be president, to be assisted in his lectures on theology and literature by the Rev. Mr. Landells and one or two other ministers. The students will go the University for their classics. The amount to be paid for each student at the college for board, &c., is fixed at 70*l.* per annum.

### Religious Intelligence.

#### HOME MISSION CONFERENCE AT BRISTOL.

On Wednesday last a conference of members and friends of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Congregational Union was held in the Tabernacle, Bristol, to consider a project of union with the Home Missionary Society. The Rev. John Glendinning occupied the chair, and there were present about seventy ministers and other gentlemen; Samuel Morley, Esq., Treasurer, and the Rev. J. H. Wilson, Secretary of the Home Missionary Society, being the deputation from London. After an exceedingly interesting and cordial discussion, not only on the question of union, but as to the best means of evangelising the county, and the neighbouring county of Herefordshire, it was unanimously resolved to recommend to the next annual meeting of the county Union to unite fraternally with the Home Missionary Society, for general objects, and specifically for the purpose of enabling the Herefordshire Association to increase its power, and carry the Gospel into every part of that county.

In the evening, a large public meeting was held in the Tabernacle, William Wills, Esq., in the chair. The local papers give a full report of the proceedings, from which we abridge the leading points.

The CHAIRMAN said that first of all they desired a union with the Home Missionary Society in London, and secondly, they were met to consider the moral and religious necessities of the adjoining county of Herefordshire. At their conference that morning it transpired that in that county, notwithstanding the efforts made by ministers, both in the Established Church and out of it, for a great number of years, to spread evangelical truth, a large portion of the county was still in a very destitute state as regarded the means of religious instruction. Surely a county so near to them, and placed in such circumstances, should excite their sympathies and call forth their earnest prayers and zealous efforts to do what they could to send the blessed Gospel to every inhabitant of it. But it was not only there that help was needed. In their own county there were large

districts in which more agents were greatly needed to carry on the important work of evangelisation.

The Rev. J. HARTLAND, secretary of the Union, reported the results of the conference. Its primary object in all probability was the fraternal intercourse and association of ministers and churches; but it had also undertaken the most important work of home missions, and this it carried on throughout the whole county of Gloucestershire and portions of the counties of Somerset and Wilts. It might not be generally known by friends assembled there that about four years ago the income of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Congregational Union was something under 400*l.* a year. Last year he was happy to say their income was within a few pounds of 700*l.*, and they had a resolution which would be submitted to them to-night pledging the meeting to use their efforts in order to raise the annual regular income of the Union to 1,000*l.* (Hear, hear.) The conference had also heard a valuable paper from the Rev. J. Stratford on the Moral Condition of Herefordshire, and passed a resolution to the effect that Mr. Somerville having offered to become responsible for 100*l.* for the evangelisation of Hereford, and Mr. Morley in a similar sum, on the part of the London society, these offers be accepted and submitted to the annual meeting of the Union. He might say, in reference to the conference that morning that the proceedings were characterised by the greatest unity and harmony, and that it was an interesting and refreshing season.

C. GODWIN, Esq., then gave an interesting account of the work done by the Lay Evangelist Society in the neighbourhood of Bristol, and moved a resolution approving of the proceedings of the conference.

Mr. S. MORLEY seconded the resolution, referring to the state of Bristol as it appeared from the census of 1851. It appeared from this that there were 137,328 inhabitants; and of that number there ought to have been found 79,650 in places of worship; but only 59,000 made their appearance, showing an absence of 20,000 persons, and it might be presumed the absence was habitual. There was an average of 44 per cent. away from worship in the Church of England, and 55 per cent. out of Dissenters of all denominations. Reference had been made to the teaching of the Established Church. He maintained that they had a terrible enemy to contend with in that Church. (Hear, hear.)

He held in his hand a report from one of the districts in the south-west of England—Dorsetshire—where it was stated that within a given radius there were 23,500 souls, 54 parishes, each having a church, 60 clergymen, and the total value of the livings 11,600*l.*, exclusive of parsonage houses and glebe land. Nearly all these clergymen had personal wealth—some of them were rich—had the influence of the nobility, gentry, and farmers, and the disposal of the charities, but very few of them did more than the obligatory duties of their parishes. The informant was not, however, aware that amongst them there was more than one Evangelical clergyman, the remainder being Tractarian; and there were statements reflecting on the moral character of some of them. He also held in his hand a book which had been circulated by a Protestant clergyman among young persons previous to going to communion, and which contained several letters, all of which ended with a brief prayer to the Virgin Mary. (Hear, hear.) Then in the south of England—Sussex—there was a number of large schools, in which every teacher was an ecclesiastic, and the whole tenor of the teaching of such a character as to land the next generation high up in the Church of Rome. (Hear, hear.) The Dissenters had heretofore taken their stand in favour of religious liberty, but they were required to watch with jealousy the teaching of the Church of England in the direction of Rome, for their danger in respect of Popish error lay far more in the Established Church of this country than in the Church of Rome. (Hear, hear.) Then, judging from the Oxford Tracts, it was clear that if they were in danger of ritualism on the one hand, they were exposed to the inroads of rationalism on the other, for not only was the inspiration of the Bible denied, but the great doctrine of the atonement was virtually ignored. (Hear, hear.)

In the county, also, 50,000 were absent on the census Sunday in 1851 who ought to have been present at public worship. There was, therefore, ample scope for all the effort which they could bring to bear upon the district with which they were more immediately connected. There was no doubt that the Evangelical clergy and party in the Church of England were having their attention drawn to this subject, and other bodies were moving, and their own particular denomination were bound to take their fair share in mitigating the great evil which existed round them. (Hear, hear.)

He appealed on behalf of the Home Missions, not in Gloucestershire only, but throughout England. (Applause.)

The Rev. S. STRATFORD then read a resolution in favour of Herefordshire.

The Rev. J. WILSON, in seconding the motion, adverted to the various departments of the Home Missionary Society. In referring to the lay evangelist department, he said that at the meeting of the society on the preceding day a report was presented to which the committee unanimously agreed. It comprised a scheme for lay agency, and strongly recommended the General Committee to insist upon it in order to keep the lay agents really in their right place, and not to encourage them to look forward to going into the pulpit unless God had called them thereto; and that the word “lay” should be prefixed to their designation. The proposition was to send forth fifty or one hundred of these to work through the country, in the counties and in the churches. In this county there were already three, in Somerset six, and in East Devon a remarkable work was being done. Working according to the new scheme, and distributing literature, tracts and books, throughout the counties, those lay agents would be preparing the ground for the Gospel seed, and ere long the fruit would be gathered up,

“shaking like Lebanon.” The rev. gentleman alluded to numerous facts that told of great improvement in the department of lay preachers who travelled through the counties of Hants, Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, distributing books and tracts, and so preparing the soil for the Gospel seed; and ere long they would gather up the fruits. He next spoke of the amount to be subscribed for Herefordshire, and said that if their society would give a hundred pounds, the county itself give a hundred pounds, and their London society the same, there would be a three-fold cord, which would produce in time three other hundreds, and so on in an infinite progression of progression.

Mr. W. SOMERVILLE, in supporting the motion, trusted that the real result of the meeting would be that they would receive every penny of the 1,000*l.* before the year was out, and that they would be able not only to give their 100*l.* with the Home Missionary Society’s 100*l.* to Herefordshire, but that they would be able to add a portion of Somerset and Wilts, which at present was in great destitution. (Applause.)

The resolution was then unanimously passed.

The Rev. S. HEADRICK moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. H. Wilson and Mr. Samuel Morley for their kind assistance and attendance. The meeting was not asked to thank those gentlemen for nothing, and it was a happy day for the Home Missionary Society when the name of James Wilson was inscribed as its secretary, and Samuel Morley as its treasurer. (Applause.) No one could fail to see that from that period the society had put on new life, and so changed that even Bristol could look upon it with complacency. They had to-day seen what no one some time back would have predicted—a desire to resume something like organic union between the County Union and the Home Missionary Society.

Mr. JOSEPH FOSTER seconded the resolution, and it was carried.

Mr. S. MORLEY returned thanks on behalf of himself and Mr. Wilson. They had been, he said, engaged in a labour of love; and he hoped very substantial results would follow their visit. He was able to testify to the extreme caution with which the committee received them at first; one of the causes assigned for which was a dread of centralisation. He was a thorough believer in local government, and not in centralisation in regard to government, and he could from experience say that centralisation in London was a great demand upon money and time. But he had never seen it prejudicial as far as the country was concerned. The committee, however, saw by and by that advantage would flow from London as well as to London.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Chairman, which was briefly acknowledged, and the meeting closed with singing and prayer.

#### THE SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.

On Sunday evening the metropolitan Cathedral was again filled with a congregation which, occupying the vast nave from the choir to the western door, presented a very impressive spectacle. It is estimated that 8,000 persons were present, including the Bishop of London, Archdeacon Hale, and Canon Dale. The lessons were read by Archdeacon Hale, and the prayers intoned by the Rev. Mr. Hall, Vicar of Tottenham, and one of the minor canons. The Bishop of Carlisle preached from Psalm lxxxix. 15.—“Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound, they shall walk in the light of thy countenance,” and concluded his earnest and eloquent discourse with an appeal to the discouraged on the fulness and freeness of Gospel promises. The Bishop of London pronounced the Benediction at nine o’clock, the services having lasted exactly two hours.

At Westminster Abbey Canon Wordsworth preached from 1 Peter iii. 15.—“Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you.” He defended with great earnestness and force the integrity of the sacred volume, and remarked that if it could be proved that its historical statements were inaccurate, its doctrines, which were based upon those statements, would fall to the ground. He denied altogether the arguments of the seven writers of the “Essays and Reviews,” and held that from the beginning of Scripture to the end there were no contradictions, and that all the conclusions at which the writers alluded to had arrived were fallacious.

Exeter Hall was filled in every part. The preacher for the occasion was the Rev. Emilie Bayly, rector of St. George’s, Bloomsbury, who delivered a sermon from 2 Timothy iii. 16.—“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.”

The preachers at the theatres were as follows:—Pavilion, Rev. W. Landells; Victoria, Rev. C. J. Goodhart and Dr. Davis (Tract Society); Sadler’s Wells, Rev. W. Tyler; Britannia, Rev. Dr. Brock.

At St. James’s Hall, in the evening, the Rev. W. M. Punshon preached from Joshua xxv. 25.—“So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.” The sermon was an impressive exhibition of those features in religious truth which are common both to the Mosaic and Christian dispensations—namely, the doctrines of sacrifice and obedience. The hall was very crowded. Of working men, in the ordinary sense in which that word is used, there were apparently but few present; but there were multitudes of young men.

**CLAYLAND’S CHAPEL, KENNINGTON.**—Another invitation having been issued to the labouring poor, who live at the rear of Clayland’s Chapel, Kennington, to take tea and spend a few hours with the

minister and members of the congregation, about 150 guests presented themselves on Monday evening last, evidently representing the most casual and ill-paid kind of labour, from the charwoman to the street-vendor. A liberal tea, administered by ladies of the congregation, assured the visitors of the goodwill and familiar disposition of their hosts; after which, they were invited to the lecture-room. Panelled with pictures of popular historical subjects, and furnished with objects of a scientific kind, including a powerful microscope and several stereoscopes, the room furnished the guests with successive surprises and delights until the commencement of some poetic readings, both humorous and pathetic, by the wife of the minister. The success of this part of the programme was availed by the eager attention of the audience, and their hearty, though decorous, applause. Mrs. Baldwin Brown's readings were varied by the frequent performance of a practised choir. These entertainments were then followed by an explanation by Mr. Brown of the object of the meeting. They were invited simply as the poor who had the first claim on the congregation. They were being just outside a building wherein was preached a Gospel especially sent to them; and this meeting was one of a series for the cultivation of their acquaintance on an equal footing. Mr. Brown was then succeeded by the City missionary, Mr. Riddell, whose personal recognition by the company was a fitting testimonial to his character. The Evening Hymn and a short prayer terminated an evening which more than rewarded the projectors and executants.

BUSHEY.—The Rev. A. H. New, of Wigan, author of "The Coronet and the Cross," "The History of Austria," &c., has accepted the cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Independent church, Bushey, near London, and will enter upon his new sphere of labour the last Sabbath in March.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE CHURCH-RATE DEBATE AND DIVISION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you allow me to acquaint those of your readers who, under ordinary circumstances, would be looking for the *March Liberator* at the end of this week, that it has been thought advisable to postpone its publication until after the debate on the second reading, in order that it may furnish an analysis of the division list, and such other information as the supporters of the bill will wish to receive on so important an occasion.

The issue—now, I am glad to say, very large—will, therefore not commence until Monday next.

Yours faithfully,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.  
2, Serjeants'-Inn, Feb. 25.

#### THE PETITIONS AGAINST THE ABOLITION OF CHURCH-RATES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I see that Archdeacon Denison recommends that every parish should send two petitions to Parliament against the abolition of Church-rates—one from the ratepayers, praying for a continuance of the impost as necessary for the maintenance of the connexion between Church and State, and another from the poor, praying that Church-rates may be perpetuated as a legal provision for the Church, out of the land, as the property of the rich. Is this the way the clergy are to get up Mr. Dissell's 15,000 petitions? if so, I hope Parliament will regard the petitions as they really will be—the petitions of the clergy obtained under false pretences.

Does the Archdeacon really think that the existence of Church-rates is a source of strength and security to the Church? If so, it strikes me that the Liberation Society don't think with him; but, on the contrary, with their "ulterior objects" in view, they would, as a matter of policy, rather that Church-rates should remain as they are, affording, as they do, an annual opportunity of directing public attention towards a Church that, in many parishes, and to many people, is only known by her exactions; and it is difficult to account for the infatuation of some of the clergy, who, at the same time that they are ready to compass sea and land to make one proselyte, are desirous to perpetuate this unjust, unchristian, and petty impost, whereby they are continually irritating their parishioners and estranging them from the Church.

It perhaps may be considered uncharitable to characterize the proposal to obtain petitions from the poor as an artful dodge—a specimen of clerical chicanery; but in what other light can we possibly regard it, for we can hardly give an Archdeacon credit for gross ignorance of the law of Church-rates and of the fact as to who pay them? He certainly does know that Dr. Lushington has clearly shown that Church-rates are not a charge on property, but a personal tax; and he does know that the owner of property is not at all liable to pay, but the occupier; and if he (the occupier) refuses to pay, his chattels may be seized and sold, or himself sent to jail, but neither the owner nor the property can in any way be distrained on; and in this respect the law of Church-rates differs very materially from that of tithes. And as to the fact who really pay Church-rates, whether the rich or the poor, the Archdeacon must know that, inasmuch as the poor abound, in many parishes they are the most numerous Church-rate payers. And it is idle to talk of the rate being deducted out of rent, for there has been no Church-rate in this parish for two years, and I will venture to say that there has not been one farthing less paid to the landlord for rent on that account. And as to the assumption that Church-rates is a tax on the rich for the benefit of the poor, I think I can clearly prove, in this parish at least, the very reverse is the case; for in this seafaring parish, it is in many instances the poor Dissenters, who are fishermen, paying for church accommodation for the rich Charphpeople, who are shipowners in easy circumstances; and if the Archdeacon would only come down here and collect a Church-rate, he would soon find out the class of people who have to pay them, for a churchwarden has told me

that he has seen the farthings counted out of the till to make the money up. I have witnessed two Church-rates contests within three months—one at the end of one year, and the other at the beginning of another—in both of which the rate was refused, and I can safely say that eight-tenths of those who voted were poor people—some of them very poor. I have seen poor people who have professed attachment to the Church vote against the rate, because the few shillings they would have to pay was an object to them, and they really could not afford to pay it.

If the Archdeacon really wishes to tax the rich to provide churches for the poor, he ought to petition for the abolition of the present system, and ask to take the money out of the Income-tax. The Archdeacon says that his scheme has met with great success. We can easily believe this, for on the one hand, although the old cry of "No Popery" is nearly become obsolete, "Church in danger" is not quite used up yet, and it is easy to awaken religious prejudices by this; and in many rural parishes it may be used with effect, as it has lately been by no less a body than a committee of the House of Lords. And, on the other hand, when we bear in mind that the parson is the parish almoner, that he and the churchwardens are the dispensers of public charities, it is very easy for them to persuade poor people that it would be a good thing to make the rich pay for their churches; and no doubt many would sign a petition if they are made to believe that Sir Robert Montagu and the like of him are to pay for the benefit of the poor; but is it truthful, is it honest, to persuade the poor that such is the case under the existing law?

If this is the way the clergy are to get up Mr. Dissell's 15,000 petitions, I hope Parliament will regard them as they really will be—the petitions of the clergy obtained under false pretences.

Dear Sir, yours truly,

T. LAKEMAN.

Brixham, February 19th, 1861.

#### A PLOUGHBOY ON CHURCH-RATES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MAISTRUR HEADUR.—I whants to tel ye sumot about how things be agwain an down here at Ashton Keynes agus Cricklet in Wilshire, i have bin a wanting to write to ye some time but as i bunt much of a skollard i didn't like to begin but I got a lot to tel ye when i got time to; fust of all tisartin tru as how um pays 400/- Pr year for Keachin the woonts as we volks call um (our Master says the rite neim on um is mools) out of the Church rates; Now I whants to ex ye if that's right akonden to Law or Conchons to make volks who ant got a garden or dwont go to Church to help pay your pounds a yur for ketchin them thur little black vernen and then to have to Pay it as Church rates. Maistrur editur there be two Chapels hur and som mestens and I think as how soum on um out to see intoot but i counts um afraid of the parson or summot, but do ye ge the meetiners a good rub up besides putin this hur luttur in your peapure and do ye tel us what ye thinks ont and what um out to do and howe to doot  
and you will oblige your bumble servant

MAISTRUR —, HEAD PLOUGH BOUY.

#### THE RECENT LECTURE AT BRADFORD.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—In a notice of some lectures of mine given in Bradford, which you take from the *Bradford Review*, there occurs a paragraph which must have passed your readers, for though it is given as a part of my own lecture, I assure you it has puzzled me. It is obviously a mistake; one, however, which it may be well to correct, as the sentiment which it attempts to report was one which it is of importance to have remembered at the present time. The sentence is as follows:—"At the conclusion of the story (that of the Pilgrim Fathers) the lecturer drew some practical inferences. Touching the present position of Dissent in this country, he said that the State Church had all the elements in it for evil—it had, at the time of the Pilgrim Fathers, except intolerance, and this was boasted of by its supporters." On the contrary, I said we had as much intolerance as ever, only, it took other forms, for as a State Church was built upon force, it must have in it all the elements for evil which it had in past times—though these will manifest themselves in divers ways. I insisted that there was as much persecution in compulsory taxation for religious purposes, as in putting a man in the pillory. I did say that the Establishment boasted of the toleration which it granted to Dissent, and explained, that so long as this came in the form of a permission which one dominant sect grants another to exist, we should consider it an insult both to God and man, and therefore that those were really tolerated, who for so long a time have stood betwixt us and our responsibility to God, by seeking, on the one hand, to impose creeds for our belief, which we could not accept, and, on the other, collecting taxes for the support of a worship in which we did not join.

I remain, yours truly,

Chorley, Feb. 22, 1861. D. WAINWRIGHT.

#### A CASE OF DISTRESS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—I should deem it a great privilege, and you would be doing an act of charity, if you would allow me through your columns to make known the following case.

A young author, whose works have received the highest praises publicly and privately, and who has expended all his means upon the gratuitous delivery of his lectures throughout Great Britain, is suffering the most acute anxiety of mind through his inability to meet a heavy bill to finish paying for the printing of his last work.

Unless this bill be shortly met he will be consigned to a debtor's prison, and the disgrace would kill him.

I enter this appeal on his behalf, having known him for many years as a truly honourable, able-hearted Christian gentleman, always ready to use his high abilities in aid of any good cause.

He is now moneyless and suffering from ill health through great anxiety of mind.

Who will help to save this young talented Christian poet from the sad fate that awaits him? His works will be gratefully returned for whatever may be sent to me.

By inserting this letter you will be saving the life of

a fellow-creature, and a retaining to the world talents of the highest order.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

RICHARD DUDDING,

Benington Rectory, near Boston, Feb. 8, 1861.

Subscribers:—H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge; the Archbishop of Dublin; Alfred Tennyson, Esq.; Charles Dickens, Esq.

### Parliamentary Proceedings.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, the Earl of DERRY gave notice that on Thursday next he would call attention to the removal of a large number of dwellings of the labouring classes in London, owing to the introduction of railways and other public works.

Lord STRATHEDDIN, in calling the attention of the House to the Report of the Select Committee of last Session on the Elective Franchise, moved for a return of the number of 400 freeholders in every county of England and Wales. The motion was agreed to.

Their lordships adjourned at a few minutes before six o'clock.

On Friday, the Earl of DONOUGHMORE brought forward the circumstances connected with the proposal to convert the Tipperary Artillery Militia into a brigade of Royal Artillery. Lord HERBERT and the Duke of CAMBRIDGE offered explanations on the same.

#### CHURCH-RATES.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH said he was anxious, even at this early period of the session, to bring the question of Church-rates under the notice of the House, because he thought no time ought to be lost in the consideration by their lordships of the report of the committee which was appointed the session before last, because the subject was one which was likely to engage public attention during the present session, and because it had already been brought before the other House of Parliament. Though the report of the committee had been completed only after the meeting of Parliament, it had not failed to call forth a large amount of public feeling on the subject, and had even been supposed to affect the division in the other House. It embodied facts and circumstances which, although they might have been surmised before, had never been placed before the country in a tangible form. He alluded more especially to the evidence showing the ulterior objects of the advocates of total abolition—evidence which raised the question at issue out of the category of mere money questions, and placed it among those affecting the stability of our institutions. The manner in which he now wished to bring the subject before the House was by laying on the table a bill which he hoped would be found to embody a more or less satisfactory settlement of the question.

He would draw their lordships' attention as briefly as possible to those points which were most prominent brought out by the evidence taken before the committee. If stress were laid upon one thing more than another, it was upon the injury which would be done to the Church by the abolition of Church-rates. The evidence went to show that voluntary subscriptions, however much they could be depended upon in cases of emergency, must not be looked to as a permanent source from which funds could be derived for the support of the fabrics—that the edifices of the Established Church were of such a nature, both in magnitude and ornaments, that the required sum for their maintenance could not be defrayed from voluntary sources, and that if those sources were attacked, other charitable objects which they now supported must materially suffer. He abandoned altogether the idea that their lordships would ever sanction a measure for the entire abolition of Church-rates. At the same time it was not to be denied that it was a subject to which the serious attention of Parliament ought to be directed, with the view to apply some remedial measures. The improper charges included in the rates, the assessment of districts having churches of their own, and the unwillingness of churchwardens to propose a rate, were all causes of difficulty, and to the removal of those causes any measure, to be effectual, must be directed.

It must be borne in mind that most of the irritation against Church-rates had its origin in the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts. That source of evil was noticed by Dr. Lushington. In the evidence before the committee of the other House in 1850, all the grievances of the Dissenters were connected with the ecclesiastical courts.

All proposals to exempt Dissenters had met with their steadfast opposition. They did not object to pay rates for the maintenance of the fabric, but they regarded with terror and apprehension the possibility of being involved in proceedings so expensive and dilatory as those of the ecclesiastical courts. Nothing came before their lordships' committee more strongly than the impolicy of leaving the jurisdiction in the hands of the ecclesiastical courts. The committee, therefore, recommended that there should be the same powers for the recovery of Church-rates as existed for the recovery of poor-rates, and that if the validity of the rate were questioned there should be an appeal to the quarter sessions. That was one of the proposals in the bill which he was about to lay upon the table.

The next branch of the subject was the common law right of every parish to levy a rate for its own purposes. The power of parishes to tax themselves was inherent in the constitution, and in this bill that common law right was retained in full efficiency. This state of the law was confirmed by their lordships in their decision in the Braintree case, because they held that parishioners had the right to exercise their discretion whether they would or would not grant the rate. The evidence given before their lordships showed that the tax was of a personal nature, and it was impossible, therefore, to settle the question without giving relief to those persons who objected to pay the rate. The

report of the committee recommended that for the future those persons who were desirous of being exempted should give yearly notice to the churchwardens, and that they should not be entitled to vote at vestries nor to act as churchwardens. The bill which he was about to lay before their lordships attempted to carry out this proposal to a certain extent. The measures which had hitherto been introduced to settle the question had failed mainly, he believed, because they treated the parishes of England and Wales as a whole, and dealt with them in a uniform manner. Persons who had a strong feeling in favour of the rate rejected concessions which would affect those places where rates were levied without difficulty, and, on the other hand, no remedy was provided for those cases where no rate was collected. His bill proposed to deal with these two cases separately. With regard to those places where the rate was levied without opposition and without difficulty, the law would be left unaltered, and the local power of every parish to tax itself for its own purposes, if a majority chose to impose a rate, would be maintained. With regard to the other case, the bill proposed that, wherever the vestry had refused a rate for two years, the churchwardens should send round notices to every ratepayer, putting this question,—“Are you desirous to have your name on the register of persons entitled to vote on Church matters?” The churchwardens were to keep a register of such persons, and any person not desirous of having his name on that register would simply be required to sign a declaration. His name would be omitted from the register—he would be disentitled to take part in the proceedings of the vestry, and he would be exempted from all liability to pay the Church-rate. By this mode the power of every parish to refuse or grant a rate would be maintained, and in cases where a rate was refused by the parish, those persons who wished to retain their names on the register would be entitled to vote a rate which they alone would have to pay.

He submitted the measure to their lordships with a confident hope that if it were carried it would remove a constant cause of irritation and hostility. The noble duke concluded by laying the bill on the table.

The bill was read a first time.

Their lordships adjourned at twenty-five minutes past seven o'clock.

#### AFFAIRS OF SYRIA.

On Monday, Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE moved for the production of papers connected with recent events in Syria, with regard to which no information had been laid before Parliament. He argued that there was no want of power in the Sultan's government to control its administrative agents in Syria and the other provinces of the empire. In the treaty agreed to by the Congress of 1856 there was a reservation made at the request of Turkey herself, that there should be no interference on the part of any Power between the Sultan and his subjects of any class, and that was not consistent with the present state of things in Syria. He urged that Turkey might be stimulated and assisted in making such reforms in her system of government as might yet preserve her as an independent empire.

Lord WODEHOUSE said that the government was anxious to afford every necessary information to Parliament, but in the present juncture of the Syrian question, it was not consistent with their duty to produce the papers and correspondence asked for, especially as the Conference of the Great Powers had not concluded its sittings, but had only adjourned. He stated that the intervention of the foreign Powers in Syria had not been without effect, while the officials sent by the Porte had taken the requisite steps for administering punishment to the guilty, difficult as it was to discriminate accurately who were and who were not offenders. With regard to the occupation by French troops, he was unable to give any further information.

After a few words from the Marquis of Clanricarde, the subject dropped, and the House adjourned at fifteen minutes past six.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES BILL.

At the day sitting on Wednesday, Mr. HADFIELD moved the second reading of the Qualification for Offices Bill, which proposed that no person chosen mayor, alderman, or common councilman, or appointed a magistrate, or admitted to any office or employment, or who shall accept any grant or commission from the Crown, shall be obliged to make and subscribe the declaration, required by the Act repealing the Corporation and Test Acts, that he will not exert the authority or influence of his office to injure or weaken the Established Church, or the rights and privileges of its clergy. The consequence of this requirement was to disqualify for office many worthy men, who were prevented by conscientious scruples from making the declaration. But although this qualification was enforced in the case of municipal officials, he was informed that no officer in her Majesty's service had made the declaration since the passing of the Act, thirty-two years ago. The default of the Ministers was cured by indemnity bills, but it was not right that there should be one law for the humbler classes, and another for the great and mighty. This might by some be considered an unimportant question, but in his opinion, and in that of many other earnest and sincere men, it was no light matter to appeal on trifling occasions to the name of the Most High.

Mr. BAZLEY seconded the motion.

Mr. NEWBEGATE observed that the oaths taken by the high functionaries alluded to contained the substance of the declaration, which was a reasonable engagement, and was founded upon the principle of the truest and widest liberality. The Ultramontane

school of Roman Catholic ministers now proclaimed the necessity for religious equality; but their real object was to reduce all other sects to an equality from which they might emerge into power. Without such a safeguard as the Established Church we could not preserve our liberties without an appeal to arms. This bill was, in his opinion, founded upon unsound principles, and he therefore, moved that it should be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. BARROW seconded the amendment.

Sir G. C. LEWIS said that he should repeat the vote which he gave last year in favour of the second reading of this bill. This was a merely nugatory, fanciful, and ideal security to the Establishment. It was a mere declaration not enforced by any secular penalties, and was not regularly but capriciously administered. It was not an oath upon which perjury could be assigned. Although a person who had taken this declaration should do something hostile to the Church of England, and the act should be proved by the clearest possible evidence, he could not be indicted or punished for perjury. It was a simple declaration, and involved no penal consequences, and, as therefore he believed that, together with many other promissory oaths and declarations which were perfectly useless as a protection to the Church of England, the security of which rested upon wholly different grounds, it might with advantage be abolished, he was contented to give his vote in favour of the second reading of this bill. At the same time he thought his hon. friend had rather exaggerated the grievance. He did not think that this declaration acted very oppressively, but he was convinced that it was wholly worthless as a security for the Establishment. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. S. ESTCOURT said although, in his opinion, the declaration, as a security to the Established Church, was hardly worth contending for, if the measure had come before the House from a responsible Government, accompanied by an assurance that the withdrawal of this declaration would leave a full and ample security to the Established Church, he did not know whether he might not be inclined to vote for the second reading of the bill. But, regarding this bill as intended to be an attack upon the outworks of the Church, he would rather not remove the declaration.

The House divided, with the following result:—

For the second reading	... ...	93
Against	... ...	80
Majority	... ...	—13

The result was received with cheers from below the gangway.

The bill was accordingly read a second time, and ordered to be committed that day fortnight.

##### TRUSTEES OF CHARITIES BILL.

On the order of the day for the second reading of this bill,

Mr. DILLWYN said the question had been so much ventilated and so constantly discussed, that he should feel it unnecessary to offer any observations, were it not that he feared the position which it at present occupied had been lost sight of. Considerable uncertainty prevailed as to the actual state of the law with reference to the appointment of trustees of endowed schools, and the controlling power which they exercised in reference to the education of children of Dissenters. During the last session two acts of Parliament bearing on the question were passed, but neither of these, in his opinion, remedied the unsatisfactory state of things of which Dissenters complained. The first was an act directing trustees of endowed schools to give greater facilities, and to make better provision for the education of the children of Dissenters; but its provisions in no way affected the administration of the schools, which was practically decided by the appointment of those administering the law. By the other act additional power as regarded trustees was given to the Charity Commissioners; but the law as it was administered in the courts remained unaltered, and the appeal which had been made to the House of Lords resulted in leaving the question in precisely the same position as before. He would not renew the arguments which had been fully and repeatedly urged as to the impolicy and injustice of the law rendering Dissenters ineligible as trustees of Church schools; but it was evident that one of its results must be to prevent Dissenters from availing themselves of the advantage offered by endowed schools; for if they found that a systematic attempt was made to exclude them from all participation in the management, they would naturally lose all confidence in these establishments, thinking it probable that their children would not have fair play in them. (Hear.) An Act of Parliament might give certain instructions to trustees but Dissenters could not avoid feeling uneasiness when they saw the Church of England assuming a propagandist attitude. Recent decisions had brought nearly all the educational establishments within the category of Church of England schools; and thus the position of Dissenters on Boards of management, where the foundation might have been originally conceived in a broad and liberal spirit, was rendered very unpleasant through their liability to expulsion. In the case of a grammar-school of which he was one of the trustees, the founder was a bishop of large and liberal mind; and in the deed it was provided that the trustees, or “feoffees,” as they were called, should

be appointed by a large proprietor resident in the neighbourhood and his successors; and failing appointment of them, or in case of their being minors, the bishop of the diocese was to appoint. Now, he firmly believed that the bishop had intended this to be a school for the benefit of the community at large, to be administered by the respectable inhabitants; but by the tenor of legal decisions it was now within the category of Church schools. The present representative was the lord-lieutenant of the county, and he had invariably picked out, not Churchmen, not Dissenters, but the most respectable and intelligent of the inhabitants; and those whom he thought best qualified to administer the trust; but if a man of another mind on these matters succeeded, that state of things would be changed. From the decisions of various judges the law appeared to be uncertain, and the preamble of the bill stated that “doubts have arisen.” If these words were objected to, he had no objection to alter them. What the bill proposed was, that no person should be deemed ineligible to be a trustee of any charitable endowment because he was not a member of any particular church, sect, or denomination, unless in the will, deed, or other instrument declaring the trustees thereof, it was expressly declared that the trustees should be members of or profess the doctrine of such church, sect, or denomination. Where there was a declaration that the trustees should belong to a particular church, the bill would not interfere with that arrangement. He could not conceive how a simple clause, such as that which contained the provisions of his proposed measure, should be open to any objection. He knew it would be said that his introduction of the bill was inconsistent with what he said when introducing his measure of 1859, respecting endowed schools; but he was not open to that charge. He did not hesitate to admit that this was not so satisfactory a measure as the one which he brought in last session; but he was told that that was too strong a bill. This was certainly a moderate one; but his original measure would not have taken “Church schools proper from the exclusive trusteeship of Churchmen. Where schools were not expressly declared to be of that character he now proposed to admit Dissenters; and he really did not see that there was any other alternative between that and allowing all the trust schools throughout the country to be classed as Church of England schools. Indeed, he believed that if something were not done, all schools intended to be open ones would be grasped by the Church. By his last bill, he did not mean to introduce Dissenters in cases where there was no doubt that the schools were Church schools proper. What he proposed was to limit the definition of what were Church schools. He was defeated. He had attempted in various forms to carry out the same principle, and, with that view, had introduced one bill after another. He was no lawyer himself, and therefore was unskilled in the technicalities of the matter. One of his bills was carried through a second reading; but in committee it was pulled to pieces, and he had to abandon it. The law had extended the definition, and he believed it would go on to embrace all schools. This being so, there was little left but for the Legislature to say that, since that was the case, since the definition would not be altered, Dissenters must, under certain terms, be admitted to a part in the administration. He did not wish to interfere with any bishop, or any one else, as to the particular persons whom he should appoint. He might appoint Churchmen or Dissenters, as to him seemed fit. All he asked to do was, to make the appointment of Dissenters legal—to, in fact, give a wider field to those who had the appointments. The measure was one of defense, and not of aggression; and he did not think it was for the benefit of the Church itself to allow dissatisfaction to exist with regard to those trustees. The principle of the bill had already been accepted by both Houses, in “An Act to Amend the Law relating to the Administration of Endowed Charities,” passed last session. The 4th clause of that Act provided that trustees should not be removed on account of their religious opinions. What Parliament had decided that the Charity Commissioners should not do, he wanted, in effect, to provide against in the case of schools. He repeated that he was at a loss to see what objection there could be to this bill; and he now begged to move that it be read a second time. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SHAW said Mr. Dillwyn had, in his speech, raised two distinct questions, one as to the eligibility of trustees; the other, that of diverting endowments from the Church of England to the Dissenting portion of the community, an object which was defeated last session, but was now sought indirectly. He should confine himself, he said, to the first question. The preamble of the bill alleged that doubts had arisen as to the law; but he could not find a trace of any doubt. Not only had no doubt existed, but there was a rule of practice which had remained unchallenged for a long series of years, and had been acted upon for the benefit, not only of the Church of England, but of Dissenters. He referred to cases, and contended that the rule adopted was not merely free from doubt, but fair and equitable, and he urged the danger of interfering with this rule, which would raise doubts and difficulties, and open new sources of litigation. He read passages from the judgments given in the House of Lords, in the Ilminster School case, insisting that they confirmed the rule, and he moved to defer the second reading of the bill for six months.

Mr. MITTON said he should support the bill on the grounds of common justice and common sense, in order to prevent litigation and the waste of

charitable funds. He denied that there were no doubts as to the law, and contended that there were great doubts as to the law to be applied to these schools.

Unless a man made some open declaration that he was a Dissenter, he (Mr. Mellor) knew nothing in law that entitled any one to call him so. (Hear, hear.) In each individual case that came before it the Court of Chancery might be able to discover whether a man was a Dissenter or not; but, in initiating litigation, how was it to be known whether a man was a Dissenter or not? (Hear, hear.) It was high time to put an end to the doubt and uncertainty that now prevailed, and to consequent litigation, and the House should declare, once for all, that no man should be ineligible for any trusteeship on account of his opinions, provided he is legitimately chosen to act—that, in short, there should be no exclusion except such as rested on the words of the founder. (Hear, hear.)

Sir W. HATHCOTE opposed the bill.

Mr. LOWE hoped he had so much credit with that House as not to be supposed to be actuated by the motives that influence those who sent round circulars on this question, and that the House would give him credit for desiring to take that course only which should prevent vexatious litigation and promote efficiency in the management of these bodies. The first question was whether the state of the law was such as to require alteration. He admitted that Mr. Selwyn had proved a rule did exist in courts of equity, but—

Is it expedient that a person of a different religious faith should be, by his faith, absolutely and irrevocably disqualified from being a trustee of that school? Now, in the first place, by the Endowed Schools Act, which I had the honour of carrying through this House, it was enacted that the trustees of Church schools are bound, and may be compelled by mandamus from the Queen's Bench, to open their schools to the children of Dissenters without imposing upon them instruction in the doctrines of the Church of England. Now, if Parliament saw fit to give the children of Dissenters this right, is it not reasonable and fair that there should be some one on the Board of Trustees to protect their interests, if any endeavour should be made to deprive them of the rights that the Legislature intended to confer upon them? (Hear, hear.) That I think is only fair, and is the only way to prevent these quarrels and those beginnings of encroachment which, if not checked at first, lead in time to litigation. (Hear, hear.) It is within my knowledge—for it is part of my duty to know what is going on in these schools—that in many cases the rule laid down by the courts has been attended with great injury to grammar schools. They are places of general instruction for the youth of this country, and they have property to manage. In a small country neighbourhood it is very desirable to have on the Boards of Trustees men of wealth and intelligence who may be willing to give their time to the business of the school, and whose religious opinions ought not to incapacitate them. I know an instance in which much zeal was shown by a clergyman to get rid of a Roman Catholic trustee to a Church of England grammar school; but that attempt was resisted by the other trustees on the ground that this gentleman was the life and soul of the whole establishment, and gave more time to the business of the school than all the other trustees together. I think, therefore, that the judges of the courts of equity ought to be allowed a discretion. I do not dispute that religion will be a great element in guiding the courts, but I think it ought not to be entirely binding on them. If such a rule were rigorously enforced it would cripple the efficiency of the Boards of Trustees and often injure the management of the schools. There is another argument in favour of the bill, that in such a case as that of Ilminster it would not be competent for one litigious person to disturb arrangements under which for hundreds of years Dissenters had acted as trustees, and to fix on Dissenting trustees a mark of social inferiority. (Hear, hear.) Hon. gentlemen argue the case somewhat as the exclusion of the Jews from this House used to be argued. We were told that the Jews might obtain a majority in this House, and it is also assumed that the trustees of Church of England schools may in time become all Dissenters; but no fear need be entertained of such a result. It is in the power of the trustees to limit the number of Dissenters, and if any trustee should be troublesome he can be got rid of without spending a penny of the funds in litigation. I do not think it desirable, in order to perpetuate a state of things that is good for no one but speculative attorneys having an eye to bills of costs, to deny the Dissenters some one to look after their interests on these Boards; nor do I think it desirable to cripple the management of these charities by withdrawing those who may be able to promote their interests and increase their efficiency. I should be sorry to see the House force Dissenting trustees upon unwilling Boards, but, on the other hand, I am sure it cannot be for the advantage of these charities to declare that to be a Dissenter is an absolute and irretrievably disqualification. (Cheers.)

Sir H. CAIRNS took exception to the preamble of the bill, setting forth that doubts have existed as to the eligibility of persons to be trustees, whereas no doubts had ever existed upon the subject, the rule being invariable. His first objection to the bill, therefore, was that it proceeded upon a false basis. His second objection was that the bill proposed that no person should be deemed ineligible unless in the will or deed it is expressly declared that the trustees should be members of a particular church or denomination. Then the object was to carry out the will of the founder when he has expressly declared his intention, and not when he has declared it by necessary implication, thus creating a new disqualification.

Mr. HENLEY entered his protest against a doctrine laid down by Mr. Lowe, as the Minister of Education, which was distinct from the merits of the bill, and which would, in his opinion, introduce confusion into the country.

They were entering upon a new era. About six or seven years ago the highest educational bodies in this country were dealt with, as some thought, very strongly.

However, though free opportunity was given to persons to participate in the education of the Universities, the Legislature, after a long debate, refused to admit into the governing bodies of those two institutions persons belonging to a different religious denomination from that of the State. So it was at the lower end of the scale. All religious denominations educated children with the assistance of the State, but all required that the governing bodies should be of the religious denomination to which the schools respectively belonged. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. DILLWYN having replied,  
The House divided, and the numbers were:—  
For the second reading ... 164  
Against it ... 157  
Majority ... —7

The bill was accordingly read a second time.

#### AFFIRMATIONS.

Sir J. TRELAWNY moved for leave to bring in a bill to allow affirmations or declarations to be made, instead of oaths, in certain cases, in Great Britain and Ireland. He said that the measure would redress a practical grievance of which many examples had been exhibited, and would permit persons who sincerely objected to take oaths to make affirmations instead.

Leave was given to introduce the bill.

#### CHURCH-RATES.

Mr. ALCOCK obtained leave to bring in a bill for the voluntary commutation of Church-rates. The bill was brought in and read a first time.

The House adjourned at a quarter past five o'clock.

#### SOUTHERN ITALY.

On Friday, in answer to Lord E. Howard, Lord J. RUSSELL said that it was not his intention to use his influence with King Victor Emmanuel to prevent bloodshed in his present hour of success, for it appeared that the Sardinian troops had behaved with great humanity and forbearance, the only instances in which severity had been exercised being in cases of brigandage accompanied by great cruelty, the persons committing robberies and murders having been convicts liberated by orders from Gaeta and Rome.

#### ALLOWANCES TO WITNESSES.

In answer to Mr. A. Egerton, Sir G. C. LEWIS said that the subject of the scale of allowances to witnesses at sessions and assizes was under consideration, but he had not yet come to any decision.

#### CHURCH-RATES.

Mr. PACKE asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department when the return of parishes in which Church-rates had ceased to be collected would be laid upon the table. An address for this return had been agreed to on the 25th of January, 1860.

Sir G. C. LEWIS said the House would perhaps recollect that last session an Act had been passed giving power to the Secretary of State to obtain a general return of all the rates. Under that Act a return of a more comprehensive kind would be obtainable than any yet called for by the House; and, as unnecessary expense and confusion would only be created by calling for two returns, he had thought it better to wait till the information under the Act, which was now being furnished, had been completed. He hoped to present the required account before the end of the session.

#### BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The House having resolved itself into a committee, resumed the consideration of the clauses of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill.

On reaching the 81st clause, which abolished the distinction between trader and non-trader, Sir G. BOWYER moved that the clause be postponed. This motion was supported by Sir L. Palk, Lord J. Manners, and Colonel Dunne, opposed by the Attorney-General, and negatived. The clause was agreed to without further discussion.

The question as to the principle of assimilating the law applicable to the two classes of debtors was, however, discussed at much length on the next clause, which set forth the acts that would constitute severally an act of bankruptcy. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in replying to objections, entered very fully into the reasons for the assimilation, which, he observed, would bring the law into conformity with the moral character and reputation of the country. Mr. WALPOLE thought the clause did not sufficiently protect the non-trader, who ought to have ample opportunity to pay the debt before the stigma of bankruptcy was affixed to him, and suggested that the Court, before it ordered a copy of the petition for adjudication of bankruptcy to be served upon him, should have satisfactory evidence that the creditor had demanded or used due diligence to obtain payment of the debt, but had been defeated by an act of bankruptcy committed by the debtor. The clause, however, was agreed to without amendment.

On reaching the 117th clause, the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

#### BANK OF ENGLAND PAYMENTS BILL.

On going into committee on the Bank of England Payments Bill, Mr. Bass objected to its provisions, urging that it in fact put the monetary affairs of the country into the hands of the Bank for twenty-five years. Mr. GLADSTONE said that the bill would have no such effect, nor would it give any new title to the Bank to any new functions or privileges. Mr. CRAWFORD denied a statement of Mr. Bass that the Bank was responsible for the rate of interest which prevailed in the money market. Mr. CONINGHAM predicted that the next commercial panic would put an end to the present law by which the currency was regulated. Mr. CROSSLEY regretted that arrangements had been made with the Bank for so long a period as twenty-five years. The House then went into committee.

Sir J. PAXTON moved that the number of years for which the proposed arrangement was to subsist

be ten years instead of twenty-five. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER repeated his assertion that this arrangement would have no effect on the power of Parliament in dealing with the question of issue or of dealing with the public balances; while the public gained a clear saving of 50,000*l.* a year, together with additional service from the Bank for the management of the public debt. The amendment was then withdrawn, and the clause agreed to, as were also the remaining clauses, and the bill passed through committee.

The bills introduced by the Solicitor-General for the Consolidation and Amendment of the Criminal Law were read a second time and referred to a select committee.

The Law of Foreign Countries Bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned at a few minutes after 1 o'clock.

#### METROPOLITAN TOLLS.

On Friday, in answer to Mr. T. Duncombe, Sir G. C. LEWIS said that no measure was ready for the abolition of tolls within the metropolitan district.

#### THE REFORM QUESTION.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE gave notice of his intention before Easter to propose a general resolution on the necessity of taking up the Reform question after the publication of the year's census.

#### INDIAN APPOINTMENTS.

In answer to Lord Stanley, Sir C. WOOD said that the question whether the first appointments to regiments in India should be by open competition or nomination was under consideration.

#### THE VOLUNTEER CORPS.

On the motion for the adjournment to Monday, Mr. BUXTON made inquiry respecting the recent order that rifles should be kept at the depots and not by members of the corps. Mr. T. G. BARING said the circular to which exception was taken was only reviving the original rule, which had been somewhat relaxed, and which was necessary to the due care and preservation of the arms issued to volunteers.

In answer to Mr. Liddell, Lord PALMERSTON said the Government were fully sensible of the great national importance attaching to this matter; but, while aware of the magnitude of the evil, they could not shut their eyes to the magnitude of the demands for providing a remedy, and they were at present not prepared to propose to Parliament to advance from the public revenue a sum at all commensurate with the object in view. But Mr. Milner Gibson had a bill in preparation, the object of which was to enable the Exchequer Bill Loan Commissioners to make advances in England and Ireland to those who were willing to take them, on certain conditions, for the improvement of existing harbours.

#### THE CONSULAR SERVICE.

Mr. DIGBY SEYMOUR elicited from Lord John Russell a statement of the intentions of the Government respecting the consular service, and the recommendations of the committee.

#### THE FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE.

In answer to Mr. Haliburton, who brought forward the case of the fugitive slave, Anderson, Mr. C. FORTESCUE said that the judgment of the court in Canada could not have any effect on the question of the delivering up or retaining the fugitive under the extradition treaty; it rested solely with the executive Government. Instructions had been sent out to the Governor-General not to take any steps in the matter until the Home Government had come to a decision.

**THE PLANTERS AND LABOURERS IN BENGAL.**  
Mr. WILLIAM EWART asked whether, for appeasing the disputes between the planters and labourers in Bengal, a more prompt and effective system of police and of civil procedure would be adopted, and whether an efficient law of contract would be introduced, and a chief system of registering contracts.

Sir CHARLES WOOD said that the police force was in course of organisation, and the procedure of simplification. The other points introduced in the question were under the consideration of the Indian government.

#### THE PACKET SERVICE.

Mr. BAXTER asked certain questions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding the manner in which the Galway Company and the Cunard Company were fulfilling the conditions of their contracts. He complained of the system of subsidies, and, noticing the fact that there were no less than ten competing lines for the North American traffic, he said it seemed to him that these were quite unnecessary; if the government would act with energy a quarter of a million sterling per annum might be saved to the country.

Lord DUNKELLIN and Mr. GREGORY defended the Galway contract.

Mr. GLADSTONE said that no case had been made out to the Government to justify an interference with the Cunard Company. A very small sum of money had been paid to the Galway Company; but as a sum had been voted by Parliament for the contract, it was thought proper to grant an extension of time to the company for its fulfilment—until the 26th of March; on condition that if they failed then the contract might be rescinded. Nothing had been contemplated with regard to an alteration of the present packet stations.

The motion for adjournment was agreed to at ten minutes past nine.

#### MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

Mr. MILNES moved for leave to bring in a bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

Mr. WALPOLE did not oppose the introduction of the bill. He (Mr. Walpole) put his argument

against this measure on the ground that the last thing a nation ought to do was to alter the law of marriage known to the country, especially when it had been sanctioned for so many centuries; and, if it were to be altered at all, he deprecated the alteration unless the Legislature took its stand upon some definite principle that would prevent it from extending the alteration much further, and he believed this was not possible.

After a few words from Mr. SCULLY, leave was given to introduce the bill.

#### GOVERNMENT OF THE METROPOLIS.

Mr. AYRTON moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the local taxation and government of the metropolis, and the local administration of justice therein. He explained at some length the grounds of his motion, the object being merely inquiry. The motion was seconded by Lord ENFIELD. After some remarks by Sir W. JOLLIFFE, Sir G. LEWIS gave his assent to the motion. He thought it a fair proposition that the Corporation should undergo a scrutiny by a Committee of the House of Commons.

Mr. CARDWELL obtained a select committee to inquire into the Poor-Law for Ireland.

Lord NAIS obtained leave to bring in a bill for the registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Ireland.

Mr. OLIVE obtained leave to bring in bills to authorise the enclosure of certain lands.

Mr. TYRE obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Metropolis Local Management Act, and to settle the parishes and districts on which certain debts of the Metropolitan Commissioners were charged.

Mr. VILLIERS nominated the following twenty-one members on the select committee on poor relief:—Mr. Soheron Estcourt, Mr. Bazley, Mr. Ayton, Lord Fermoy, Mr. Villiers, Mr. Walpole, Mr. E. P. Bouverie, Sir A. Buller, Mr. Kekewich, Colonel Pennant, Lord Stanley, Lord R. Cecil, Sir W. Jolliffe, Mr. Lowe, Sir J. Aston, Lord E. Howard, Sir G. Bowyer, Mr. Caird, Mr. Alderman Sidney, Mr. Lyall, and Mr. M. Milnes. Power to send for persons, papers, and records. Five to be the quorum.

The University Elections Bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes after twelve.

#### THE LATE HARVEST.

On Monday Mr. CAIRD gave notice of his intention to call attention to the deficiency of the last harvest, and the necessity for public economy arising therefrom.

#### THE COUNTY FRANCHISE.

Mr. V. SCULLY gave notice on the second reading of the County Franchise Bill, that he should move that in the opinion of the House it was not expedient to proceed with it this session.

#### THE FRENCH IN SYRIA.

In answer to Mr. E. James, Lord J. RUSSELL said that it had not been decided in conference that the occupation of Syria by French troops should be prolonged beyond the period stipulated by the convention. No decision had been come to, and the matter had been referred to the several governments.

#### CHARGE AGAINST MR. LAING.

In reply to a question put by Mr. Vansittart, Sir C. WOOD said his attention had been called to the charges made against Mr. Laing in the report of the Committee of Investigation appointed by the Great Western of Canada Railway Company, which had taken him entirely by surprise; that it would be his duty to inquire into the subject; and till he was in possession of the statement on the other side it would be exceedingly unfair to express any opinion upon it.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The House, having resolved itself into a Committee, resumed the consideration of the details of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill, and clauses 118 to 197 were agreed to with very few amendments, the Chairman being then ordered to report progress.

#### THE NEW SEATS.

On the order for the second reading of the Appropriation of Seats (Sudbury and St. Albans) Bill,

Sir G. LEWIS observed that, as the only principle of the bill was the filling up of four vacant seats, very little advantage could arise from discussing the bill at this stage; the details could be more fitly discussed in the committee.

There was, however, a great deal of discussion, the claims of Scotland, Ireland, of rural districts and of large cities being respectively urged, after which the bill was read a second time.

Sir G. LEWIS moved the second reading of the Highways Bill; but, after a short conversation, the motion was postponed.

After some further business, the House adjourned at a quarter to twelve o'clock.

#### Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen held her second levee for the season, on Wednesday, in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty wore a train of black silk, trimmed with black gimp and rosettes. The petticoat of black satin, trimmed in front with black lace and gimp. Her Majesty wore a diadem of emeralds and diamonds as a head-dress. One hundred and four noblemen and gentlemen had the honour of being presented to the Queen.

A report of an intention of the Queen to visit Ireland appears in a Dublin paper.

Her Majesty will hold her third levee this season on Wednesday, 13th March. The Queen's first drawing-room this season will be held on Thursday, 21st March.

We (*Court Journal*) believe it is the intention of Prince Louis of Hesse to pay a visit to our Court during his sojourn at Osborne in the ensuing month. His Grand-Ducal Highness will accompany her Majesty and the royal family back to town.

Dr. William Jenner has been appointed Queen's Physician Extraordinary in the place of the late Dr. Baly.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget will not be brought forward till after Easter.

On Tuesday last the Royal Academicians agreed to an increase in the number of visitors from eight to twelve—so as to insure closer attention and additional variety in the instruction given. The meeting then adjourned for a week.

The sudden death of Francis Danby, associate of the Royal Academy, is announced.

The honorary freedom of the Fishmongers' Company has been unanimously voted to Mr. Cobden.

On the second reading of the County Franchise Bill, Sir Lawrence Palk will move the previous question.

The army estimates for the year ending March 31, 1862, show a net decrease of 185,795, and this, notwithstanding that the number of the land forces, 146,044, is an increase of 775 over the previous year. The principal decrease takes place in the two items of fortifications and embodied militia. Last year 320,000 was voted for the latter, but this year they disappear from the votes. The vote for fortifications is 487,170 less. In wages of artificers there is a deduction of 4,787, 27,093 in civil buildings, 17,442 in barracks, and 16,533 in educational and scientific branches. The total sum required for the effective and non-effective service is 14,606,751, against 14,792,546 voted last year. It is understood that the project of building several forts for the protection of the coast about Portsmouth has been abandoned.

#### Postscript.

Wednesday, February 27, 1861.

#### FRANCE.

PARIS, Tuesday Morning. The *Moniteur* announces that the Corps Législatif has annulled the election of M. Dabeaux as member for the department of Aude, in conformity with the conclusions of the committee.

#### ITALY.

TURIN, Feb. 26 (evening).

The Senate, in its sitting to-day, passed, by 129 against two votes, the project of law granting the title of King of Italy to Victor Emmanuel and his descendants.

ROME, Feb. 24 (vid Marseilles).

An order of the day of General Goyon censures the demonstrations of the National Committee, rejects the congratulations which the latter has extended to the French, and recommends the soldiers to avoid popular assemblies. General Goyon has presented his officers to Francis II.

NAPLES, Feb. 24 (vid Marseilles).

The suppression of the convents has given rise to disturbances here. The rioters attacked several convents. The National Guard interposed, and, in order to prevent their destruction by the people, quartered themselves in the convents. Six hundred insurgents in the Abruzzi having been surrounded by the Sardinians, laid down their arms, and withdrew into Pontifical territory.

#### AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Tuesday Morning.

The official *Wiener Zeitung* announces that the Emperor has sanctioned the constitutional statutes, and that they will be published as speedily as their voluminous nature will permit.

VIENNA, Tuesday Noon.

The representation of the empire will retain the name of Reichsrath. The Reichsrath will consist of two Chambers. The Upper House will be composed of hereditary members, and of other persons nominated for life. The Lower House will consist of 343 members, who will be elected by Provincial Diets. The Reichsrath will have the right of legislation and of initiative. Its sittings will be public. A bill becomes law when it has passed both Houses and has been sanctioned by the Emperor. The Reichsrath is to fix the amount of the Budget, to legislate in all matters of taxation, to manage public loans and the national debt, to audit the State balance-sheet, and superintend the affairs of the bank. The restoration of the former Constitutions of Hungary, Croatia, Slavonia, and Transylvania, within the limits of the diploma of the 20th of October, 1860, is decreed. For the other provinces liberal statutes, with representation of the interests of the people, will be given. To towns the representation will be at the rate of five per cent. of the population. In rural districts it will be below five per cent. The Provincial Diets are to legislate for their respective provinces, to have autonomy, the right of initiative, and publicity. The Provincial Diets are to meet on the 6th, and the Reichsrath on the 29th of April.

#### CROATIA.

AGRAM, Feb. 26.

The Comitat of Agram has resolved upon requesting the Emperor to open the Diet in person, and to be crowned as King in this city.

#### TURKEY.

VIENNA, Feb. 26 (morning). Revolutionary disturbances have broken out at Sutorina. The insurgents are receiving reinforcements from all parts. Mehmed Pasha, at the head of a force, is marching against them. A conflict is imminent.

Evening.

The insurrection in Sutorina has proved to be so serious that Mehmed Pasha, having only a small body of troops at his disposal, has not dared to attack the insurgents, but has retreated.

#### YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, the Bishop of OXFORD moved the second reading of the Houses of Ill Fame Bill, the object of which was to give greater facilities for the suppression of such places. The LORD CHANCELLOR pointed out that the enactment of the bill involved a charge on the revenue, and that the Commons would reject it. After a short conversation the bill was withdrawn.

The Bishop of OXFORD moved the second reading of the Protection of Female Children Bill, the object of which was to make the seduction of girls of thirteen a misdemeanour, as was now the case with reference to those between ten and twelve. After some discussion, Earl GRANVILLE moved the rejection of the bill; and on a division it was lost by 48 to 27.

The Marquis of NORMANBY postponed a motion of which he had given notice on the case of Mr. Turnbull till Tuesday next.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

A very interesting discussion took place in the House of Commons on the question of the slave-trade and coolie immigration. It was occasioned by a series of resolutions moved by Mr. CAVE, which declared that the measures hitherto employed to suppress the slave-trade had been unsuccessful, and pointed to a system of free emigration to our West India colonies as the best means of extirpating the odious traffic. Lord JOHN RUSSELL, Mr. BUXTON, Lord A. CHURCHILL and other members took part in the debate. The two last-named gentlemen gave some interesting information respecting the commercial resources of Western Africa. It appeared from Mr. CAVE's speech that the Madras coolies, who have been shipped to the Isle of Bourbon, are not humanely treated; and that the Chinese who unfortunately "immigrate" to Cuba are virtually regarded as slaves.

#### THE IRISH MEMBERS AND CHURCH-RATES.

In a letter to the *Morning Star* and *Dial* Mr. Vincent SCULLY announces that the perusal of a pamphlet entitled "A Few Words on the Church-Rate Question, respectfully Addressed to Members of Parliament, by the Archdeacon of London," convinces him that he ought to attend this day and vote for the abolition of Church-rates. Mr. SCULLY adds:—

I hope the House will come to an early division, and not allow the question to be "talked out" by useless speeches. I trust also that the English and Scotch Liberals will in future pay more regard than they have as a body hitherto done to Irish interests and feelings; otherwise the few Irish Liberals still left in Parliament may not find it in their power to aid much longer the common cause of national progress.

The Court yesterday left Buckingham Palace for Osborne.

CORK ELECTION.—The election of a representative for the county of Cork terminated in favour of the Conservative candidate, Mr. Leader, who obtained a majority of 263 votes over his opponent.

REFORM MOVEMENTS IN LONDON AND THE PROVINCES.—The interest of the people in Parliamentary Reform is rapidly being placed beyond a doubt. The meeting at Bradford on Monday night will be followed on Friday by a still more striking demonstration at Leeds. From various parts of the country we hear of similar movements; nor is the capital to be left in a state of apparent lethargy. There was held last night, at Anderton's Hotel, a meeting convened by circular on a short notice, but very numerous and influential, comprehending a thorough representation of metropolitan Radicalism. A strong feeling was expressed in favour of reviving the pure and simple Chartist agitation; but ultimately it was agreed, with perfect cordiality, to establish a London Political Union, to combine with the advocacy of "complete enfranchisement," and of a large reduction of expenditure, the support of measures tending in that direction—and "especially the bills introduced by Mr. Locke King and Mr. Edward Baines." An executive was appointed to take immediate action; and it is requested that persons willing to co-operate will at once communicate with the hon. secretary, Mr. Washington Wilks, at the committee-room, Anderton's Hotel.—*Morning Star*.

#### MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

The arrivals of English wheat up to this morning's market were somewhat on the increase, but the general condition of the samples was very inferior. The finest qualities changed hands at prices quite equal to those realised on Monday; otherwise, the trade ruled heavy in the extreme, at irregular currencies. The imports of foreign wheat are very moderate. In most descriptions, a fair roll-call business was doing, and the quotations were steadily maintained. Floating cargoes of grain ruled dull, at barely stationary prices.

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Delta."—We greatly regret that want of space has obliged us for this week to omit his very interesting paper.

## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1861.

## SUMMARY.

To-day's debate and division promise to be the great event of the session, and are expected with intense anxiety in every part of the country, and by persons of every shade of political and ecclesiastical opinion. The Church-rate question has at length come to be the great party question of the day, and is treated as such by all the leading organs of the press. Whether the scale this day incline towards the Ministerial or Opposition benches is, in our view, a matter of small importance compared with the fact that the settlement of this great controversy has become a matter of national concern. This morning's papers alone testify to the gravity of the crisis, and to the impossibility of any compromise, should Sir John Trelawny's bill be thrown out. The *Times* leads the way by denouncing the opposition to repeal as a fanatical crusade laid hold of by a political speculator to serve the purposes of "a numerous party fighting for power." This reckless policy will prove "disastrous to individuals, dangerous to the nation, and fraught with absolute ruin to the witless projectors." "Time," says the leading journal, "proves itself the enemy of the Rate, for every fresh event gives the signal of its speedy abolition." We have to thank the *Times* for a suggestion we should hardly have ourselves made—in case the House of Commons should now refuse to abolish Church-rates:—

*What if all the Dissenters and a good many liberal Church people of England were to resolve simultaneously—say, next August—to pay no more Church-rate? Considering that the rate has always been voluntary in its amount, and has latterly been declared altogether voluntary as regards the majority of the Vestry; and since many parishes won't pay, or don't pay, and nobody can make them pay; and since in every parish it is well known that any man may avoid paying the rate, if he will only do it quietly, there would be nothing very seditious or otherwise extraordinary in such a simultaneous refusal.*

"Compromise is now impossible," says the *Daily News*, which sees in the possible issue of to-day's division a barren victory, which, though a great gain to the Tory party, "would ultimately prove far worse for the Church than a defeat." If, however, this organised movement of Church and Tory fanatics should prevail, "the Liberal party, and the Government that depends on it, will receive the heaviest blow that has been dealt them for many a day." "The total abolition or partial retention of the rate, instead of being, as it once was, a mere detail of ecclesiastical legislation, has become a political question of first-rate importance. It is one of the two great questions that divide Liberals and Tories." "It is one of the few questions on which the united action, if not the very existence, of the Liberal party depends." The *Daily Telegraph* regards Sir John Trelawny's bill as the only means of settling the question, and describes the Church of England

as "labouring at the present moment from an attack of hypochondriasis." "On this point our clergy and hierarchy are absolutely raving; and as a jaundiced eye tinges every object it beholds with a yellow hue, so these devotees of an annual subsidy of three hundred thousand pounds sterling regard the very existence of the National Establishment as depending on the privilege of putting their hands in their neighbours' pockets and levying black mail." The *Morning Star* publishes a second letter from Mr. Scully, who announces that a pamphlet on Church-rates, which has been sent to him by Archdeacon Hale, has convinced him of the necessity of voting this day for abolition. Apropos of this letter, and the return of a Conservative colleague for Scully by the county of Cork, the *Star* once more appeals to the Irish Liberals to pause in a species of tactics which is paving the way for the restoration of a Conservative Government.

So much for the indications of public opinion, which will enable us to bear defeat with great equanimity. But what cares a dominant Church for public opinion—nay, for common decency? Do her bishops and clergy blush for the deeds committed not only in her name, but on behalf of Christianity? Are they not moving Heaven and earth to perpetuate the legal robberies and cruel exactions of which Edinburgh, Accrington, Southampton, and Broadway are now the theatres? Our columns for the last few weeks have revealed in all its hideous features the persecuting spirit of the State Church, and have shown that no consideration for the religion it professes to represent will avail when money is at stake. Through the whole compass of secular journalism we look in vain for any apology for the shameless nepotism of the Evangelical Bishop of Durham, with which all England is ringing; but we find it in the columns of the *Evangelical Record*, which, while speaking of the movement to free the Church from these pollutions by severing it from the State, as tending "to secularize and anti-christianize all education, to pull up the landmarks of the faith, and reduce the Christianity of the Gospel to a mere speculative thing," can unblushingly describe the greed of Dr. Villiers as a "mistake of parental affection," and cant about the piety and zeal of the new incumbent of Haughton-le-Skerne!

We refer with pleasure to the report of the meeting held last week to hear from the deputation lately sent out by the Baptist Missionary Society, a vindication, founded on their own extended observations, of the success of the Emancipation Act in Jamaica. Though the report of Mr. Underhill and the Rev. J. T. Brown has been too long delayed, such proofs of the beneficial results—material, social, and religious—of a great act of justice are always welcome. There are not a few indications that Jamaica and the whole of our West India Colonies are entering upon a career of prosperity which promises still further to exalt and improve the coloured population, and to put an end to the misstatements of the planting friends of Mr. Trollope.

Important as is the foreign news of the week we have no space to do more than indicate its drift. The fall and imprisonment of M. Mirès, the great Parisian speculator, is likely to have an injurious influence on French commerce, and to bring to a crisis the financial difficulties of Turkey.—The Emperor of Austria has convened the Hungarian Diet for the Second of April to meet in the fortress of Buda, and has simultaneously—driven perhaps by the fear of war and bankruptcy or dismemberment of his provinces—proclaimed a new constitution for the empire. No one is likely now to place faith in the paper promises of the Court of Vienna. At the same time the new concession is in theory a real one; inasmuch as the Council of the Empire is to be a representative body, to exercise the power of the purse, the right of initiation, and its discussions are to be public.—The Senate of the Turin Parliament has all but unanimously passed the project of law granting the title of King of Italy to Victor Emmanuel and his descendants. That sovereign who now rules over a population of over twenty-one millions becomes, in fact, one of the Great Powers of Europe.—As might have been expected, the Pope, in spite of the Guérinière pamphlet, refuses to make any concessions, or to come to any terms with the King of Italy, while the French General at Rome alternately encourages and frowns down the growing popular movement in the Eternal City for national unity. But even Pius IX. sees the inevitable termination of present complications—though unwilling to accept it. The address of the French Senate in reply to the Emperor's Speech, and the secularization of monastic property in Naples, will probably confirm his obstinacy, while these events show to all but the benighted priesthood of Rome, the swift progress of ecclesiastical revolution.

## THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

THE evening of Tuesday se'nnight chanced to be the most important which has occurred since the opening of the present Session. On that evening Lord Grey, in a most masterly speech, gave a succinct history of our relations with China, and discussed and condemned the policy which successive Governments have pursued towards that vast empire. On that evening, Mr. Locke King and Mr. Baines brought forward in the House of Commons their respective motions for enlarging the County and the Borough franchise, and obtained leave to introduce their Bill. And on that evening, Government sustained its first defeat for the Session, Mr. Hubbard having carried against them a motion for a Select Committee of Enquiry into the desirableness of modifying the existing assessment for the Income Tax. The proceedings in both Houses may well have been regarded by Ministers as rather ominous.

Lord Grey's speech in the House of Lords, though a long one, deserves careful study. It was the speech of a statesman. Possibly, his narrative of historical facts is open to the charge of being *ex parte*—worthy rather of the advocate than the judge. But all Parliamentary speeches are so, and, in the main, must be so. Reading it, however, in connexion with Lord Wodehouse's reply, it leaves upon the mind a conviction that Lord Grey's view is substantially the right one. The noble lord dealt with the question in a comprehensive spirit. He traced the causes, not of the last war merely, but of preceding ones, and showed how, of necessity, one grew out of the other, and how each successive war and the treaty which followed it, left matters in a worse position than it found them. He regarded the treaty of Tien-tsin and the Convention of Pekin, as laying the ground of inevitable future misunderstandings, and he pointed out the tendency of all our proceedings in China to weaken the authority and dry up the resources of the Chinese Government, and to bring on that worst of all alternatives, a great diminution and embarrassment of our trade with the subjects of the Emperor, or an assumption of the governing power as in India. In a word, he showed how, in their haste to be rich, our traders to the Flowery land were "killing the goose that lays them golden eggs." We are glad to learn from Lord Wodehouse that the Government strongly disclaims all idea of siding with either of the great parties into which the empire is divided, nor can we conceal our satisfaction that Lord Ellenborough, after listening to the reply of the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, so emphatically endorsed the views which had been propounded by Lord Grey. As the motion was merely a formal one for papers, the debate, of course, was not followed by a division, but we trust and believe it will have the effect of infusing caution into the spirit of our Chinese diplomacy for the future.

The Lords do not sit on Wednesday—not, indeed, looking at the business they do, at this period of the Session, is there the slightest necessity for their meeting above once a week. On Thursday, for instance, beyond reading Lord Montague's bill for cutting the ground from under Fictitious Savings Banks, and hearing a well-studied speech from Lord Stratheden recommending serious attention to what he calls "occasional" Parliamentary reforms, as contradistinguished from a comprehensive measure, they could find nothing to do. On Friday, the affair of the Tipperary Militia Artillery, in which, as Lord Ellenborough remarked, the public good was made to give way to private convenience, and a remarkably efficient corps of artillery numbering 800 men and forty-eight guns, was lost to the public service, lest a captain or two of the Royal Artillery should sustain disadvantage by having his chances of promotion interfered with, was introduced by Lord Donoughmore, the commanding officer of the corps. Lord Herbert, the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Vivian, Lord Ellenborough, and Lord Grey, discussed it in a strain which left upon our minds the unpleasant impression that Government is far more careful of the sensitive feelings of a few individuals than considerate for the public wants.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe introduced on Monday evening the Syrian question, complained of the dearth of authentic information with regard to it, and, after a speech in which he attributed the disorders of Syria to the constitutional debility of the Ottoman empire, and after urging the application of pressure on the Porte by the Great Powers to secure the prompt and efficient execution of the measures comprehended in the Hatti Humayoun, as the only means of warding off decay and demoralisation, moved for papers relating to the affairs of Syria. Lord Wodehouse declined acceding to the request, on the ground that the production of information at the present moment might embarrass the deliberations of the Conference now sitting at Paris.

The House of Commons have not had a lively week, by any means. Tuesday, as we have already intimated, was the most stirring night. The manner in which Lord Palmerston received the Reform propositions of Mr. Locke King, and Mr. Baines, the indifference amounting to contemptuous slight with which he treated them, the languid discussions upon them which ensued, the tone of the Opposition, the dull unanimity with which the introduction of the two measures was assented to, and the refusal of Government to give them the slightest facility in future stages, must kill all hopes, if any have survived the first day of the Session, in making any progress with Parliamentary Reform for the present. Ministers appear to us to be holding themselves in reserve for the last Session of the present Parliament, when they will probably return to their forsaken *affiances*—that is, of course, if they still remain Ministers, which is extremely doubtful. The House recoils from a prospect of early dissolution. Lord Palmerston knows this. But a Parliamentary Reform Bill, if passed, would necessitate an instant appeal to the constituencies. When such an appeal becomes inevitable, we shall hear again of the now abandoned question, and zeal will suddenly take the place of contempt. It will undoubtedly be the duty of earnest Reformers to give Mr. Locke King and Mr. Baines all the countenance they can—but it is disheartening work to back up efforts which will certainly fail in private hands, and which ought to have been undertaken by the responsible Government. Both the hon. members referred to did their duty bravely and efficiently—both debates were short, and will repay perusal—and Lord Palmerston's reply in both cases is redolent of the utter listlessness and deep subtlety of our septuagenarian Premier.

Included between these two Reform motions were three others, one of them leading to a division adverse to Ministers. The first was "an annual" under the care of Mr. W. Williams, for charging real property with the same Probate duties as personal property. The hon. gentleman will have to vary his arguments a little if he means to hold his ground against the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The second was submitted by Mr. Hubbard on a money question of general interest, on which he may well be supposed to be accurately and fully informed. He moved for a Select Committee to inquire as to the operation of the Income-tax, avowing his design to relieve Schedule D of one third of its proportion of the burden. Of course, Mr. Gladstone opposed him with all his vigour and ingenuity, but, happily, without his accustomed success. He was outvoted in the division by a majority of seven. After this somewhat piquant encounter Sir Morton Peto, in an interesting and able speech, introduced a measure for opening our parochial churchyards to the ministrations of Dissenters whenever the friends of the deceased prefer them to the sepulchral rites of the Church of England. The Bill is a thoroughly good one, and very ably drawn. We are afraid, however, that it stands small chance of being pushed through the present obstructive House of Commons.

Wednesday was quite a field-day on this subject of religious liberty. There was first Mr. Hadfield's Qualification for Offices Bill, which passed through the House last Session with scarcely a breath of opposition, but which, this year, albeit supported by Sir G. C. Lewis, squeezed through its second reading with but a narrow majority. Then there was Mr. Dillwyn's Trustees of Charities Bill, warmly advocated on the part of the Government by Mr. Lowe, resisted with determination by Mr. Selwyn and Sir Hugh Cairns, and carried by a still narrower majority. It is quite evident from what passed on Wednesday that the whole force of the Conservative party is to be systematically put in motion against every project supposed to emanate from the Liberation Society. It is a capital card for Mr. Disraeli to play—and by the skilful use of it he will win for his party the defences of a timid, hesitating, and half-hearted Government.

Thursday was mainly devoted to the Attorney-General's Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill, which is rapidly making its way through Committee. On Friday the motion for adjournment started no less than sixteen different topics for discussion, most of which were of passing and minor interest. We refrain from even presenting a list of them, for an enumeration of their titles would be unintelligible, and anything like a description of them would occupy far more space than their importance deserves. The debate, if debate it can be called, occupied several hours, and the House adjourned without doing anything more. Monday was divided between the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill, on which we need make no further remark, and the Appropriation of Seats (Sudbury and St. Alban's) Bill which, after a smart debate, a little longer and a little livelier than that which took place on its introduction, but which was substantially a mere

enlarged repetition of it, was read a second time without a division. The tug of war, or rather of competing aspirants, will come when it gets into Committee. Heigho! we begin to grow heartily sick of this talking, trifling, time-wasting, retrogressive Parliament.

#### PROXIMATE PROSPECTS OF LIBERALISM IN PARLIAMENT.

In another column we have given our readers some faint notion of the efforts which are being made by the Conservatives as a party, and the clergy of the Church of England as a class, to defeat Sir John Trelawny's Bill for the Abolition of Church-rates, and we have estimated their chance of success. Assuming, for a moment, that those efforts will be successful, we deem it both timely and expedient to consider the bearing of such an event, taken in connexion with several others of a like discouraging nature, upon the prospects of the Liberal cause in Parliament.

We have no wish to exaggerate the importance of the Church-rate question, in itself considered. It has always been more valued by Dissenters as a symbol than as substance. The abolition of the system was regarded by most of them as the smallest instalment of the justice due to them, as their share of the benefit to be derived from the large amount of support they have uniformly and disinterestedly given to the Liberal party and its Government. They have not even asked this for themselves exclusively, but have sought it on grounds in the strictest sense national. But it was, if we may so say, well nigh the only question in which their position and interests were committed to the generosity of the Liberal side of the House. It might be said, is, a merely twopenny-halfpenny question—but, as being their question—as involving their deliverance from Church of England ascendancy in its most irritating and humiliating form—as having called forth their efforts for many years past, and as having gradually attained for itself a commanding place in the constituent body and in the House which represents it—it had come to be regarded as a test of political good-will towards Nonconformists, and constituted the main distinctive tie which bound them to the party calling itself Liberal. In this sense, the Abolition of Church-rates has acquired, as a Parliamentary question, a significance to which it would not have been otherwise entitled; and in sharing the fate of the Reform Bill, its new and unexpected position in the House of Commons cannot fail to modify to a great extent the prospect of Parliamentary Whiggism.

The Dissenting communities of this country constitute the backbone of what is usually designated "The Liberal interest." There are few boroughs in which they do not hold the balance between the two great political parties. There is, probably, not a single county in which a Liberal could be returned without the active support of Nonconformist electors. In all the large cities and towns, such as Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Nottingham, and the like, they constitute an immense majority of the party by whose exertions progressive, as contradistinguished from stand-still, representatives are returned. They have not usually employed the unquestionable power given them by their wealth, numbers, and position, to selfish purposes. They have not sought any exclusive sectarian objects. They have not inconveniently thrust into the foreground their own principles. They have seldom made a point of being represented by their own men. Somewhat too submissively, but always with exemplary loyalty, they have contentedly discharged the duties of rank and file, leaving the posts of honour to, and receiving the word of command from, members of the Church of England. One only condition have they exacted from those into whose hands they have cheerfully played—and that they thought themselves secure of being faithfully discharged. It cannot but be that disappointed in that, their relations to the Liberal party will very soon undergo a most material change.

All earnest politicians when they think fit to put their own special and distinctive principles in abeyance, and to combine with others who do not share their views, consent to the sacrifice in the hope of gaining thereby some practical advantage. Their object may be to obtain strength for themselves by strengthening and developing popular rights, or it may be to make good their footing up to certain limits in order to secure a better purchase for working beyond those limits. Whatever it be, one thing is certain—that they will not long submit to hold back that in which they feel the deepest interest, unless they can be convinced that in doing so they are making some way. Now, we predict that the defeat of the Church-rate Abolition Bill, coupled with the abandonment of Parliamentary Reform, must inevitably, quite apart from all

resentful feelings, render the advanced section of the Liberal party, which, if it do not consist of, very mainly depends upon, the great body of Nonconformists, very indifferent as to the maintenance of those friendly relations which have hitherto preserved towards the leading Whigs, whether in constituencies or in the House of Commons. Why should they be anxious to cherish a connexion which, while it necessitates their suppression of their own political wishes, does nothing whatever to promote either the public or the sectional objects in which they are specially interested? They will not. They will turn from unattainable objects of the more popular and practical kind, to not more unattainable objects of a remoter but far more radical kind. They will gradually retreat upon their own great principles, and form a less heterogeneous party upon a wider basis. What will they lose by doing this? They get nothing as it is. What will the people lose? They also get nothing. But the Liberal party, as such, will collapse. The Whig leaders will be nowhere. And, after a season of chaos, the intellect, the moral worth, and the energy of all that portion of the community which desires to push forward, will organise themselves on surer bases, and will move onward to the work of adapting the institutions of the country to the spirit of the age, under more active and courageous leadership, and with far greater enthusiasm.

We have made up our minds, consequently, to a temporary, we hope it will not be a long, paralysis of Parliamentary Liberalism. Inaction has impaired its vital powers. It has had nothing to feed on—nothing to rouse its energies—nothing to develop its inner life—for several years back. Whether, in its present form, it will survive another general election is extremely doubtful. Where the clerical element comes into full play, the interests to which it sets itself in antagonism will be sorely pressed unless they are felt to be vital, and worth contending for. The cry of "the Church" will carry all before it until it is met by a cry that will evoke deeper earnestness. There is an inundation upon us, and we must bear its inconveniences as best we may. But it is an inundation—abnormal, sudden, mischievous, and temporary. The waters will subside ere long—or if that be not the case, the wretchedness they will occasion will set men upon the task of draining them off altogether. Ecclesiastical ascendancy, when no longer confined within sufficient embankments, can no more be moderate than fluids can flow upward to a higher level than their own source. Victory never yet induced any clergy to abate their pretensions. Sir John Trelawny's defeat, if he be defeated, will be instantly followed by a trampling under foot of all the dictates of prudence. We shall be treated with the insolence of triumph. But not we only. The first line of defence having been carried against Liberals, they will soon be assailed on the second, and the weaker one. Conservatism, having no compact majority to fear, will show itself at length as genuine Toryism. The country will have to endure the annoyances which its own apathy has provoked—and then there will come a reaction. But this we venture to predict with the utmost confidence—that the reaction, when it does set in, will sweep away before it far more important things than Church-rates.

#### THE COMING CRISIS IN AMERICA.

The fourth of March, when Mr. Lincoln is to be inaugurated at Washington, as President of the "United States," is approaching. By that time, if not sooner, the mighty revolution which has taken place in what has hitherto been designated as the American Union, will probably have formed for itself definite channels. Never did sovereign or chief magistrate in the Old world or the New, assume office at a more extraordinary conjuncture. It is impossible to say who and what the new President, though legally elected by the whole Union, will actually represent. Six of the Slave States have definitely withdrawn from the Federal Government; constituted themselves at Montgomery into an independent power, under the name of the "Confederated States of America;" appointed their own President and Vice-President; and adopted a provisional constitution. Texas, which has already seceded, is about to join the new confederacy, and by this time Arkansas has thrown in its lot with the seven seceding States. When Mr. Lincoln takes the Presidential chair, he will, *de facto*, exercise no control over the whole of the Gulf States; and the entire of that vast extent of coast, and some 500 miles of the great Mississippi will be in the hand of a foreign Power, with the exception of Fort Sumter, at Charleston, and Fort Pickens, at Pensacola.

To deal with these revolted members of the American Union is not the only difficulty of the incoming President. The right of secession can-

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not be conceded to the South, and denied to the Border States. These members of the Union are, with the exception of North Carolina, still undecided what course to pursue. At present they appear disposed to remain in the Union, provided the terms offered by the Free States are sufficiently satisfactory. Their sympathies are with the North; their interests with the South. To find a basis for compromise that will retain them in the old Union—to make such wholesale concessions as will enable these slave-holding and slave-breeding communities to unite their lot irrevocably with the free population of the North—is the perplexing problem that Congress and the Peace Conference called by Virginia have to solve. But even when these terms shall have been satisfactorily adjusted, it will be necessary that such an amendment of the Constitution shall be voted by two-thirds of both Houses of Congress or that the Legislatures of two-thirds of the States shall apply for a Convention for proposing amendments. If, as seems probable, the required majority—156 representatives and 46 senators—cannot be obtained in the present Congress, it will be necessary to fall back upon the other and more tedious process, which may delay the decision for many months.

Such delay seems likely to be fatal to a compromise for retaining the Border States in the Union. What influence can the North exert over Virginia and Maryland compared with that which the new Confederation can bring to bear? It is among the Southern planters alone that the slave-breeders of these States must look for their market. And if the law of the new Union, that "Congress shall have power also to prohibit the introduction of slaves from any State not a member of this Confederacy," be carried into effect, Virginia and Maryland must either be forced into partnership with their only customers, so far as the breeding of slaves is concerned, or be content to abolish their profitable internal traffic with or without compensation. Although in several of the Border States free labour has been making steady advances upon slavery, this movement has not yet sufficiently advanced to affect materially their interest in the maintenance of slave institutions, and the strong pro-slavery amendments laid before the Peace Conference indicate too clearly the direction of their real sympathies.

While, however, these negotiations are proceeding, the new President will be installed, and be called upon to act. If Mr. Lincoln carries out the policy shadowed forth in his speech at Indianapolis, there will be small chance of any arrangement that will retain the Border States. What, he asks, is coercion, what invasion?

Would the marching of an army into South Carolina without the consent of her people and with hostile intent towards them be "invasion"? I certainly think it would be "coercion" also if the South Carolinians were forced to submit. But if the United States should merely hold and retake its own forts and other property, and collect the dues on foreign importations or even withhold the mails from places where they were habitually violated, would any or all of these things be "invasion" or "coercion"? Do our professed lovers of the Union, but who spitefully resolve that they will resist "coercion" and "invasion," understand that such things as these on the part of the United States would be "coercion" or "invasion" of a State? If so, their idea of means to preserve the object of this great affection would seem to be exceedingly thin and airy."

There can be no doubt that the attempt of the Federal Government to collect revenue, retake forts, and stop mails in the revolted States, would be resisted; and that the formal announcement of such a policy would be seized upon as a pretext by the Border States to make common cause with their Southern brethren. Mr. Lincoln has the reputation of being a man of clear purpose, and determined will, but whether, in any attempt to "retake forts" and collect revenue, he would be supported by Congress and his Northern constituents remains to be seen. A momentous crisis in the fortunes of the American Union is approaching, and whatever may be the feelings of Englishmen on the slavery question, they would view with deep sorrow and apprehension any action that would precipitate a civil war in the United States.

**THAMES EMBANKMENT.**—The Thames embankment question will, it is stated, be submitted to a Royal commission, which is about to be issued for the purpose of considering the best means of carrying it into effect. The commission will be composed of seven gentlemen, intimately connected with the public interests involved in the completion of the project. The chairman will be the Right Hon. W. Cubitt, M.P., the present Lord Mayor of London. The other members will comprise Mr. Thwaites, the president of the Metropolitan Board of Works, the secretary of the Thames Conservancy Board, and two or three engineers of eminence. When the commissioners have finally decided on the plans and arrangements essential for carrying the project into effect, their views will be embodied in a bill to be brought in by the Chief Commissioner of Works.

## PARLIAMENTARY DIVISION.

## TRUSTEES OF CHARITIES BILL.

The following are the particulars of the division on Wednesday last, on Mr. Dillwyn's Trustees of Charities Bill:—Ayes, 164; Noes, 157.

## MAJORITY—AYES.

Adair, H E	Ewart, J C	Mills, T
Adeane, H J	Ewing, H E C	Mitchell, T A
Alcock, T	Fenwick, H	Moffatt, G
Anson, Hon Captain	Foley, A S	Morris, D
Antrobus, E	Foley, J H	North, F
Ayrton, A S	Forster, C	O'Connor, Den, The
Bagwell, J	Forster, W E	Onslow, G
Baines, F	Fortescue, Hon F D	Paget, C
Ball, E	Fortescue, C S	Paxton, Sir J
Baring, H B	Fox, W J	Pease, Henry
Barnes, T	Freeland, H W	Peto, Sir S M
Bass, M T	Garnett, W J	Pigott, Sergeant
Baxter, W E	Gaskell, J M	Pilkington, J
Bazley, T	Gavin, Major	Ponsonby, Hon A
Bedale, S	Giblin, C	Powell, W T R
Bennish, F B	Glyn, G C	Pryse, E L
Bethell, Sir R	Goldsmith, Sir F H	Ramsden, Sir J W
Biggs, J	Gordon, C W	Ricardo, J L
Black, A	Gower, Hon F L	Ricordi, O
Bonham-Carter, J	Greene, J	Rich, H
Bouverie, Rt Hon	Gregson, S	Russell, H
H E F	Grenfell, C P	Rusell, K
Bouverie, Hon P P	Hadfield, G	Russell, Sir W
Brand, Hon H	Hawkey, T	St. Annes, J
Bristow, A R	Hauner, Sir J	Salomon, Alderman
Browne, Lord J T	Hartington, Marquis	Scholefield, W
Bruce, H A	Hastings, Sir H W	Scott, Sir W
Buller, Sir A W	Headlam, Rt Hon T H	Seymour, Sir M
Bury, Viscount	Heneage, G F	Seymour, W D
Butler, C S	Henley, Lord	Shelley, Sir J V
Buxton, C	Holland, E	Sheridan, R B
Calthorpe, Hon F	Howard, Hn C W G	Smith, Augustus
H W G	Ingham, R	Somerville, Right
Cavendish, Hon W	Jervoise, Sir J C	Hon Sir W M
Childers, H C E	Kershaw, J	Staplepool, W
Clay, J	King, Hon P J L	Stanley, Hon W O
Clifford, C C	Kinglake, Alex W	Steel, J
Clifford, Colonel	Kinglake, H A	Stewart, A
Clive, G	Knatchbull-Hugess, sen, E	Sykes, Col W H
Cobett, J M	Langton, W H G	Tite, W
Coke, Hon Colonel	Lawson, W	Tottenham, Hon F J
Collier, R P	Layard, A H	Trelawny, Sir J E
Craufurd, E H J	Leathem, E A	Turner, J A
Crawford, R W	Locke, John	Vivian, H H
Crossley, F	Lowe, Right Hon B	Warner, E
Davey, R	Lytley, W J	Westhead, J P R
Davis, Colonel F	Mackie, J	Whalley, G H
Dent, J D	Mackinnon, W A	Whitbread, S
Duff, M E G	M'Mahon, P	White, J
Dunbar, Sir W	Maguire, J F	Williams, W
Duncombe, T	Majoribanks, D C	Woods, H
Dundas, F	Martin, P W	Wrightson, W B
Dunkellin, Lord	Martin, J	Wyvill, M
Dunlop, A M	Massey, W N	Tellers.
Endfield, Viscount	Matheson, A	Dillwyn, L L
Evans, T W	Miller, W	Mellor, J
Ewart, W	MINORITY—NOES.	
Adderley, Rt Hon C B	Greenall, G	Mordaunt, Sir C
Arbuthnot, Hn Gen	Gray, Captain	Morgan, O
Ardagh, Capt M	Halliburton, T C	Mowbray, Rt Hon J R
Astell, J H	Hamilton, Lord C	Mundy, W
Baille, H J	Hardy, J	Murray, W
Barrow, W H	Hartopp, E C	Naae, Lord
Barttelot, Major	Hassard, M	Newdegate, C N
Bathurst, A A	Heathcote, Sir W	Nicol, W
Beecroft, G S	Henley, Hon H J W	Noel, Hon G J
Bentinck, G W P	Hervey, Lord A	Northcote, Sir S H
Bentinck, G C	Hegarty, Sir F W	Packs, C W
Benyon, R	Heygate, W U	Pakington, Rt Hon S R J
Beresford, Rt Hon W	Holford, R S	Park, Sir L
Bernard, T T	Holmesdale, Visct	Parker, Major W
Blackburn, P	Hood, Sir A A	Patten, Col W
Bond, J W M G	Hopkyns, G W	Paull, H
Booth, Sir R G	Hopwood, J T	Peacocke, G M W
Botfield, B	Horsfall, T B	Peel, Rt Hon G
Bramston, T W	Howes, E	Pugh, D (Montgomery)
Bridges, Sir B W	Hubbard, J G	Fuller, C W G
Burghley, Lord	Hunt, G W	Rolt, J
Cairns, Sir H M C	Jervis, Captain	Rowley, Hon R T
Cartwright, Colonel	Johnstone, Hon H B	Salt, Thomas
Cave, S	Kendall, N	Scalder-Booth, G
Clive, Hon G W	Kerrison, Sir E C	Shirley, E P
Close, M C	King, J K	Sibthorp, Major
Cochrane, A D R W B	Knatchbull, W F	Smith, S G
Codrington, Sir W	Knox, Colonel	Smollett, P B
Collins, T	Knot, Hon Major S	Somes, J
Corry, Rt Hon H L	Lacon, Sir E	Spooner, R
Cubitt, G	Leake, Sir H	Spanhore, J B
Dalkeith, Earl of	Leffroy, A	Stanhope, Lord
Dawson, R P	Leigh, W J	Stewart, Sir M R S
Deedes, W	Leighton, Sir R	Streacy, Sir H
Dickson, Colonel	Lennox, Lord G G	Taylor, Colonel
Diarrell, Rt Hon B	Lennox, Lord H G	Thynne, Lord H
Du Cane, C	Lindsay, Hon Col	Tollemache, J
Duncombe, Hon A	Lockhart, A E	Upton, Hon Gen
Egerton, Hon A F	Long, R P	Valletort, Viscount
Egerton, E C	Lovaine, Lord	Vance, J
Egerton, Hon W	Lyyall, G	Vansittart, W
Estcourt, Rt Hon T H S	Lyon, Hon F	Verner, Sir W
Farquhar, Sir M	Macaulay, K	Walcott, Admiral
Farrar, J	Mainwaring, T	Walpole, Right Hon
Fellowes, E	Malcolm, J W	S H
Forester, Rt Hon Col	Mallins, R	Watlington, J W P
Gard, R S	Manners, Rt Hon L D J	Whitmore, H
George, J	Miles, Sir W	Wyndham, Hon P
Gladstone, Captain	Miller, T J	Wynne, C G
Goddard, A L	Mills, A	Tellers.
Gore, J R O	Mitford, W T	Montgomery, Sir G
Gore, W R O	Montgomery, Sir G	Belwyn, C J
Graham, Lord W	Moody, C A	Montagu, Lord R

## PAIRS.

For	Against
Mr Dalgleish	Viscount Newport
Mr Foljambe	Viscount Curzon
Mr H Berkeley	Viscount Ingestre
Mr March	Viscount Galway
Hon W J Monson	Sir E Filmer
Col Biddulph	Hon H. Wyndham
Mr Hardcastle	Hon C Trefusis
Mr James	Sir J Walah
Colonel Kingcote	Mr G Hardy
Baron M de Rothschild	Col Gilpin
Mr Vynne	Mr Beach
Mr Hodgson	Mr Alderman Copeland
Earl of Gifford	Mr Cobbold
Sir H Davis	Major C Legh
Col F Berkeley	Mr G Start
Sir C Douglass	Col North
Mr Jackson	Mr Jolliffe
Mr Carnegie	Col Bathurst
Mr Blanckow	Mr Papillon
Sir J Johnstone	Hon H. G. Liddell
Mr Wyld	Mr Knightley
Mr Staniford	Mr Greenwood
Hon C Fitzwilliam	Mr Basil Wood
Mr T G Baring	Mr Welby
Mr O'Connell	Viscount Hamilton
Sir J Matheson	Mr Powys
	Mr Braxa

For	Against
Mr Remond	Earl of Bute
Lord B Clinton	Sir G Burrell
Sir N Agnew	Major Edwards
S Gurney	Right Hon W E Gladstone
G G Glyn	T Baring

## Foreign and Colonial.

## FRANCE.

THE EMPEROR AND THE POPE. The Committee of the Senate has adopted the project of address in reply to the opening speech of the Emperor. This address congratulates the Emperor upon his decree of the 24th November, and upon his foreign policy. It then continues thus:

In reference to the affairs of Italy, two interests which the Emperor wished to reconcile have clashed against each other. The liberty of Italy is in conflict with the Court of Rome. Your Majesty's Government has done everything to arrest this conflict; and all equitable ways have been espoused. You have only hesitated before the employment of force.

The address pronounces itself in favour of non-intervention, and says:—

Italy should not agitate Europe by the exercise of her liberty, and should remember that the Catholic world has entrusted to her, the head of the Church, the highest representative of moral force. But our most steadfast hope is in your tutelary hand, and in your filial affection for the holy cause, which your Majesty will not confound with the cause of intrigues which assume its guise. The Senate does not hesitate to give its most entire adhesion to all the acts of the Government.

As regards the future, we shall continue to place our confidence in the monarch who shelters the Papacy beneath the French flag, who has assisted it in all its trials, and has constituted himself the most vigilant and faithful sentinel of Rome and the Pontifical Government.

The discussion of the above project of address has been fixed for Thursday next.

Orders, it is said, have been sent to the French Commissary-General at Rome to prepare beds for 6,000 additional troops.

The *Ami de la Religion* gives the strange news that a Piedmontese brigade will shortly enter Rome and occupy it conjointly with General de Goyon.

It is stated that M. Thouvenel has addressed to the French diplomatic agents abroad, a circular intended to explain the motives which have decided the French government to leave its troops at Rome. According to the terms of this circular, France will continue to keep garrison in the Pontifical States until a congress shall have determined on the reorganisation of Italy.

The Bishop of Orleans has sent his promised answer to the Gueronnier pamphlet to the press. It is in the form of a letter to the Viscount de la Gueronnier. The bishop then follows that writer through the history of the Papacy during the last ten years, refuting every proposition as he goes along. He denies that the Pope ever refused reforms, and asserts that the cry for reform in the Papal States was only a pretext for spoliation. He taunts the Duke de Gramont for the sneering way in which he speaks in his despatches of the "pious Bretons," who went to Rome to offer their services to the Pope, and gives it to be understood that it was entirely owing to the "church party," now contumacious and repudiated, that the Emperor was enabled to "pass triumphantly through the ranks of these same pious Bretons" on the occasion of a recent tour. His letter, which breathes the spirit of the church militant, further

which has been spoken of is not a concession to, but a restriction of, French pretensions. The Porte very firmly insists upon not granting more, and that upon the ground only of the convenience of the French army—not upon the necessity of its presence in Syria for another hour. Lord Cowley warmly supported the views of the Turkish plenipotentiary. M. Thonvenel is very sulky about the matter.

## ARREST OF M. MIRÈS.

Paris is all agog for revelations from M. Mirès, the unprincipled speculator, the great millionnaire, the negotiator of the Turkish Loan, and the managing director of *Caisse Générale des Chemins de Fer*, to the discredit of distinguished officials supposed to have gone shares with him in the various public projects with which he has had to do of late. Either to prevent damaging disclosures or preparatory to the indictment of M. Mirès on some grave charges, that individual has been arrested and now resides in the State prison of Mazas, close by Paris. He is said to have obtained railway contracts or information for gambling purposes by enormous bribes.

The *Times*' correspondent, writing on Thursday, says, with reference to the Mirès affair, that it is affirmed on all hands that defalcations to a large amount have been discovered in the matter of the Roman railways, and that these defalcations in all, or in part, arise from the large sums paid in gratuities to promote the enterprises in which Mirès was engaged, or for obtaining important information necessary for their success. Sums varying from 6,000L to 20,000L are said to have been disbursed in this way. If Mirès persists in his menace that he will not fall without bringing disgrace and ruin on many others, people expect some extraordinary disclosures. About 280,000L in drafts on Mirès, of Paris, remain undiscounted in the hands of various Greek firms : they are due on March 15th.

The *Constitutionnel* and *Pays*, of which M. Mirès was the proprietor, are placed (provisionally) under the management of M. August Chevalier, member of the Corps Législatif, the brother of M. Michel Chevalier.

## ITALY.

In the concluding part of Victor Emmanuel's speech on opening the Chambers, there is the following reference to Garibaldi, which did not appear in the telegraphic summary :—

After many signal victories, the Italian army, increasing every day in fame, has just acquired a new claim to glory by capturing one of the most formidable fortresses. I console myself with the thought that this deed of arms will close for ever the mournful series of our civil conflicts.

The fleet has proved in the waters of Ancona and Gaeta that the mariners of Pisa, Genoa, and Venice are revived in Italy.

Valiant youths, led on by a captain who has filled with his name the most distant countries, have made it evident that neither servitude nor long misfortunes have been able to enervate the Italian race.

These facts have inspired the nation with great confidence in its own destinies. I take pleasure in manifesting to the first Parliament of Italy the joy I feel in my heart as a King and as a soldier.

Government has presented to the Senate a project of law, according the title of King of Italy to Victor Emmanuel and his successors. The project was received with loud cheers.

The Inauguration of the Italian Parliament has been celebrated in several towns of Venetia.

The number of troops who were made prisoners at Gaeta was 11,000. The Sardinians found between 700 and 800 cannons and 60,000 muskets. Three generals accompanied Francis II. to Rome ; twenty-five are prisoners. The garrison of Gaeta, being prisoners of war, have been sent to the Neapolitan islands.

Two fortresses of Southern Italy still remain in the hands of the Bourbons—Civitella del Tronto, on the Garigliano, and Messina in Sicily. Both, it is said, will resist in spite of the orders of Francis II. Admiral Persano has gone to Messina with the fleet. The *Opinione* says :—“Three colonels, a major, and two captains have deserted from the citadel of Messina. In case General Fergola, who regards himself as the only judge of his military honour, refuses to deliver up the fortress which he commands, the siege of it will be immediately commenced both by sea and land.” A telegram from Turin, dated Feb. 23rd, says :—

Admiral Persano has arrived in the waters of Messina to summon the commander of the citadel to surrender. General Cialdini remains at Naples, but will join Admiral Persano in case the commander refuses to comply with the demand.

The report published by some Italian newspapers in reference to the surrender of Civitella del Tronto is untrue.

The property of the religious orders in Naples which have been suspended has been taken possession of by the Government.

The Papal Zouaves have massacred Dr. Latini and his little daughter, aged six years, in the village of Collalto.

About 1,000 brigands, with artillery, under the command of Count Christen, have attacked Carsoli. The Italian volunteers retired fighting. On receiving this news, Colonel Masi and Major Vincentini hastened to the spot, energetically attacked the enemy, and pursued them as far as Oricola, killing many men.

Admiral Mundy has received orders to leave Naples, and proceed to Malta with the English squadron.

## THE PAPAL STATES.

## THE LAST FRENCH PAMPHLET.

The official *Giornale di Roma* declares that the Pontifical Government declines the responsibility of the present crisis which the pamphlet of M. de la Guerinière throws upon it, and adds that the pamphlet is written with the same duplicity as the former French pamphlets on the Roman question. The article concludes thus :—“The allocution delivered by his Holiness in January, 1860, and the allocutions of a more recent date, and also the despatch dated 29th February, 1860, addressed by Cardinal Antonelli to the Papal Nuncio at Paris, Mgr. Sacconi, have sufficiently proved with whom lies the responsibility of the late deplorable events.”

Letters from Rome to the 20th inst. state that a proclamation of the National Committee announces that Victor Emmanuel will soon be proclaimed King of Italy at the Capitol. The same proclamation expresses thanks to France for her reserved attitude in Rome. The French authorities had taken possession of the keys of the Capitol, in order to prevent the ringing of the bells by the people.

The Papal Government had exiled several persons, among whom was Signor Titoni, a rich merchant, who was suspected of having promoted the late political manifestations. Fourteen persons were arrested, sent to the Tuscan frontier, and there left to their own devices. Among them were a father and three sons.

A French bishop who has lately had an interview with the Pope gives out that his Holiness is firmly resolved not to quit Rome under any circumstances whatsoever, and reports the following as the substance of a statement made by the Pope in the course of conversation :—The Pope has not the least doubt that, sooner or later, France will withdraw her troops, and that the Piedmontese will take possession of his small remaining territory. But this “crowning act of spoliation” will in no way change the conduct of the Holy Father. “I may perish,” he says, “but the Papacy will not perish. I may suffer martyrdom, but the day will come when my successors will enter into the full possession of their rights. St. Peter was crucified, and yet I am here.” It being remarked to the Sovereign Pontiff that he would very soon be penniless, he replied that he was quite devoid of anxiety upon that subject, since he should always be sure of finding three francs a day to live upon, and that was all he wanted. If the Pope really talks in this way, nothing can be more silly. He knows perfectly well, and all the world knows it too, that he is in no danger of martyrdom, or of personal privation of any kind.

The following is dated Rome, Feb. 24 :—“The decease of Cardinal Brunnelli is announced. The French are about to occupy a portion of the province of Frosinone. An order of the day of General Goyon has been declared to be a calumny on the Pontifical Government. The latter is preparing a reply to the pamphlet of M. de la Guerinière, in order to prove that all the responsibility of the late events lies with the Emperor Napoleon. Fifteen Romans have been exiled, and have already left Roman territory. Francis II. is said to intend staying here as long as the French remain. The inhabitants of Rome are secretly making preparations for the reception of King Victor Emmanuel.”

## AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 20th, says :—

About a week ago military men of rank and standing informed their friends that Hungary was on the very eve of a state of siege, but I am assured that the Cabinet will not have recourse to such an extreme measure unless there should be serious disturbances, accompanied by revolutionary movements in the conterminous Turkish provinces. The general impression in this city is that complete anarchy prevails in Hungary, but two persons of my acquaintance who have just come from Pesth say that since the restoration of the county authorities things have greatly improved. The General Congregations continue to make opposition to the Government “in a legal way,” but they neither commit excesses themselves nor allow others to do so with impunity. As this statement may appear somewhat strange, it may be as well to observe that its correctness is fully confirmed by the reports which Prince Francis Liechtenstein, the commander of the forces in Hungary, has recently forwarded to the Imperial Government. There is now an army of 80,000 men in Hungary, Transylvania, &c., and as such a force is well able to maintain peace and order, the introduction of martial law would be a work of supererogation.

A Royal rescript convokes the diet at Buda, for the 2nd of April, in order to make arrangements for the coronation of the Emperor as King of Hungary, to receive communication of the inaugural diploma, and to elect the Palatine of Hungary.

The municipality of Pesth has forwarded an address to the Emperor, demanding the dismissal of the Ban of Croatia and the appointment of a Hungarian in his place. The Comitat of Agram has resolved upon breaking off all official connexion with the Comitat of Pesth, on account of this resolution.

The General Congregation of Fiume has refused to assemble in the city while it is in a state of siege, and announced its intention to hold its sittings at Buccari, a Royal free city in the district of Trieste.

A publisher in Pesth, who issued an illustrated periodical with a portrait of Louis Kossuth, had his issue confiscated.

A riotous disturbance occurred in Pesth on the 24th ; it took place on the occasion of the Jewish “Purim” festival. Two of the patrol and several civilians were wounded.

It is stated that orders have been despatched to Pola and to Trieste for the purpose of arming all

the sailing ships, without exception, of the Austrian marine.

The *Oesterreichische Zeitung* gives a denial to the news published in the *Presse* of the conclusion of a convention between the Eastern Powers against an eventual Hungarian or Polish revolution.

## GERMANY.

A meeting of the German National Association took place Heidelberg a few days since, which was attended by more than 300 members, and at which a resolution was voted, declaring that the present constitutional situation of Germany does not secure to her the rank and influence in European affairs to which she is entitled, and urging that a German Federal State, with a strong central power, should be formed.

The representative of Prussia at Frankfort has received, it is stated, orders from his Government to urge, in reference to the proposal of Hesse Darmstadt relative to the National Union, that the prohibition or toleration of that association is a question for the decision of each separate Government concerning its own territory, and that it is not the duty of the Diet to offer any recommendation on the subject.

## RUSSIA.

The great measure of the emancipation of the serfs is the universal topic in Russia. To provide against agitation, and, perhaps, some disturbing manifestations, the Russian government has taken some serious measures at St. Petersburg—such as arming the winter palace and removing the arms of the arsenal to the fortress. It is added that there is an intention of encamping regiments in different quarters on the day of the promulgation of the decree of emancipation.

A despatch from Prince Gortschakoff says :—“Russia will support the prolongation of the French occupation of Syria. Should the Conference deem it expedient to increase the army of occupation by troops of the other great Powers, she will offer no objection.”

The project of a new tariff of import duties on European goods, drawn up by order of the Emperor, will shortly be published at St. Petersburg.

## TURKEY.

According to accounts from Constantinople of Feb. 7th, France, as Russia had previously done, has addressed to the Turkish Government a note, demanding the meeting of Constantinople of a permanent Conference. The notes of the two Powers are almost identical in expression. The Porte replies that it is preparing reforms.

## UNITED STATES.

## SPEECH OF THE NEW PRESIDENT.

Mr. Lincoln, at the latest dates, had arrived at Indianapolis, and delivered the following speech from the balcony of the Bate's House, to an assembly of at least 20,000 people :—

Fellow-citizens of the State of Indiana.—I am here to thank you much for this magnificent welcome, and still more for the very generous support given by your State to that political cause which, I think, is the true and just cause of the whole country and the whole world. Solomon says, “There is a time to keep silence;” and when men wrangle by the mouth with no certainty that they mean the same thing while using the same word, it perhaps were as well that they would keep silence. The words “coercion” and “invasion” are much used in these days, and often with some temper and hot blood. Let us make sure, if we can, that we do not misunderstand the meaning of those who use them. Let us get the exact definitions of these words, not from dictionaries, but from the men themselves, who certainly deprecate the things they would represent by the use of the words. What, then, is “coercion”? What is “invasion”? Would the marching of an army into South Carolina, without the consent of her people, and with hostile intent towards them, be “invasion”? I certainly think it would be “coercion,” also, if the South Carolinians were forced to submit. But if the United States should merely hold and retake its own forts and other property, and collect the duties on foreign imports, or even withhold the mails from places where they were habitually violated, would any or all of these things be “invasion” or “coercion”? Do our professed lovers of the Union, but who spitefully resolve that they will resist “coercion” and “invasion,” understand that such things as these on the part of the United States would be “coercion” or “invasion” of a State? If so, their idea of means to preserve the object of this great affection would seem to be exceedingly thin and airy. If sick, the little pills of the homeopathist would be much too large for it to swallow. In their views, the Union, as a family relation, would be no regular marriage, but rather a sort of “free love” arrangement, to be maintained on passional attraction. By the way, in what consists the special sacredness of a State? I speak not of the position assigned to a State in the Union by the constitution, for that by the bond we all recognise. That position, however, a State cannot carry out of the Union with it. I speak of that primary right of a State to rule all which is less than itself. If a State and a county, in a given case, should be equal in extent of territory, and equal in number of inhabitants, in what, as a matter of principle, is the State better than the county? Would an exchange of names be an exchange of rights? Upon principle, on what rightful principle may a State, being no more than one-fiftieth part of the nation in soil and population, break up the nation and then coerce a proportionably larger subdivision of itself in the most arbitrary way? What mysterious right to play tyrant is conferred on a district of country, with its people, by merely calling it a State? Fellow-citizens, I am not asserting anything I am merely asking questions for you to consider. An now allow me to bid you farewell.

## THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.

The Southern Convention, assembled at Montgomery, Alabama, adopted a constitution on the

9th. The title is "The Constitution for the Provisional Government of the Confederate States of America." The preamble reads, "We, the Deputies of the Sovereign independent States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, invoking the favour of the Almighty, hereby, in behalf of the States, ordain and establish this constitution for a Provisional Government of the same, to continue one year from the inauguration of the President, or until a permanent constitution or Confederation be put into operation." The seventh section provides that Congress shall pass laws effectually preventing the importation of negroes from other than slaveholding states; also to prohibit the introduction of slaves from any State not a member of this Confederacy. The second section provides that an escaping slave shall be delivered up by the Executive of the State where found, and for full compensation with expenses in case of rescue. The sixth article says that the Government hereby instituted shall take immediate steps for the settlement of all matters relating to the public debt and public property at the time of withdrawal from the United States, these States declaring an earnest desire to adjust everything pertaining to the common property, liabilities, and obligations of that Union upon principles of right, justice, equity, and good faith. The tariff clause provides that Congress shall levy and collect taxes, duties, impost, and excises for revenue necessary to carry on the Government, such to be uniform. The other portion of the constitution are almost identical with that of the United States.

The Congress unanimously elected Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, president, and Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, vice-president of the Southern Confederacy.

The Southern Congress had taken in hand the difficulties between the Southern Confederacy and the United States, respecting the forts, arsenals, &c. No collision was expected to take place until after a formal declaration had been made by the Southern Congress, unless the Federal Government should take the initiative.

The Texas Convention had passed an ordinance in favour of the speedy formation of the Southern Confederacy.

The "Peace Conference," at Washington begins to be treated somewhat contemptuously by the American papers, one of which stigmatizes its members as "emanations of grog-shop influences," and "political fossils." A telegram, dated the 11th, says:—"The opinion is gaining ground that the Peace Convention will recommend a national convention for the settlement of our political troubles, and a better feeling is evident on all sides."

The Louisiana Convention on the 9th resolved for the present to recognise the central Government at Washington, so far as postal arrangements are concerned, until they are provided by the Southern Congress. A resolution was passed endorsing the action and election of the Montgomery Congress.

Large reinforcements of men and supplies had concentrated by Government ready to rush into Charleston Harbour.

The Union candidates in Tennessee were expected to have an aggregate majority of over 50,000 votes.

Five vessels belonging to New York shipowners had been seized at Savannah, in retaliation for the seizure of muskets at the former city. The vessels were, however, subsequently released on the muskets being given up.

The Rattlesnake Club at Savannah, which is composed of "rowdies," had tarred and feathered Captain Vaughan, of the British ship *Kalos*, for asking a negro stevedore to dine with him. The British Consul at Savannah had offered a reward of 1,000 dols., and the mayor of the city 500 dols., for the discovery of the perpetrators of the outrage.

#### CANADA.

The Anderson case was argued at Toronto on the 9th. No decision probably until the following week, but the general opinion was that the court will liberate the prisoner on a technicality in the commitment.

#### MEXICO.

The Papal Nuncio had been insulted in Vera Cruz, and took refuge in the French Consulate. Miramon escaped disguised, after great dangers. The populace stoned them at Vera Cruz. The American Minister, Mr. Weller, was received on the 30th.

From Havannah we learn of the arrival there from Vera Cruz of several fugitive Ministers from Mexico, including Miramon.

#### INDIA.

By the arrival of the Bombay mail we learn that the Governor-General is still in Central India, holding durbars with native chiefs and rajahs. Sir George Cierck, the new Governor of Bombay, was making himself deservedly popular. He was engaged in a tour through Guzerat, his object being to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the condition of the country which he has been called upon to govern. Sir George had given great satisfaction by promising to introduce a measure for the settlement of those land questions which had given rise to the obnoxious Inam Commissions.

The accounts of the famine in the Punjab are of the most distressing character. Owing to the fearful drought, it is estimated that four millions of persons are deprived of the means of subsistence, and dependent upon charity alone for their daily

bread. Both the government and the European population have taken active steps to alleviate this distress—the latter by private charity, and the former by the vigorous prosecution of public works.

#### CHINA.

The following telegrams have been received:—  
"SHANGHAI, Jan. 5.—The troops at Tientsin are healthy, and in comfortable quarters. The treaty between Russia and China, which was signed at Pekin on the 14th November, cedes to Russia the seaboard between the rivers Amoor and Tumen. Chusan has been evacuated by the allies. The rebels remain quiet. The English admiral, in the Impérieuse, with three sail of the line, has left for Japan. Trade is languid."

"BATAVIA, Jan. 16.—A treaty has been concluded between Holland and Siam. A destructive hurricane has passed over the island. The coffee plantations have suffered severely."

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

MEDITERRANEAN EXTENSION TELEGRAPH.—The new line recently laid from Otranto to Corfu is now open for the transmission of messages.

FRENCH SPOILS FROM CHINA.—The articles taken from the Summer Palace at Pekin, and offered to the Emperor and Empress by the army in China, are now exhibited in the gallery of the ground floor of the Pavilion Marson, in the Tuilleries.

DEATH OF M. SCRIBE.—This famous dramatic author has died suddenly of apoplexy. The deceased had up to the moment of his death been in the enjoyment of excellent health, and the suddenness of the unlooked-for catastrophe has greatly shocked a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF RUSSIAN GRAIN BY LOCUSTS.—The trade circular of Messrs. Carr, of Rostock, states that the devastation caused by locusts has been such that in the Odessa districts alone some 400,000 or 500,000 quarters of wheat were destroyed.

THE KING OF ITALY'S CROWN.—By means of private subscriptions a rich and elegant crown has been prepared for Victor Emmanuel. It is composed of two branches, one representing that of an oak, the other that of a laurel, and they are slightly interlaced.—*Letter from Turin.*

THE VICEROY OF EGYPT en route to MECCA.—The viceroy of Egypt, after having landed at Ouech, a small port in the Red Sea, proceeded to Medina, where he remained five days praying on the tomb of the Prophet. The Prince made some magnificent presents to the Scherif of Medina and to the Ulemas. He was to leave on 20th January for Mecca.

ANNEXATION OF THE FIJI ISLANDS.—Dr. Seemann, commissioned by the British Government to explore the Fiji Islands, arrived at Sydney on the 11th December, on his return from a visit of inspection. His opinion of the capabilities of these islands is very favourable, and there seems every probability that they will be added to the possessions of the British Crown.—*Australian and New Zealand Gazette.*

PILGRIMAGE OF THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH TO JERUSALEM.—We have good reason to believe that a part, at the least, of the object of Admiral La Roncière le Nourry's late visit to Constantinople had reference to the for-some-time intended pilgrimage of the Empress of the French to Jerusalem. Her Majesty is said to have had such a journey in view ever since the death of her late sister, the Duchess d'Alba, and the official rumour now is that her intention is to be carried into effect before the French troops leave Syria.—*Levant Herald.*

#### EMANCIPATION IN THE WEST INDIES.

On Wednesday afternoon a public meeting was held at Willis's Rooms for the purpose of receiving the report of the Rev. Mr. Underhill and the Rev. J. T. Brown, two gentlemen who had been sent out by the Baptist Missionary Society for the purpose of inquiring into the causes of the distress said to exist in the West India Islands since the emancipation of the slaves under British rule.

The Rev. Dr. Brock opened the proceedings with prayer.

Mr. CHAS. BUXTON, M.P., occupied the chair, and in his opening speech referred to the present condition of the American States, and contended that the gloomy aspect which they now presented was entirely owing to their continuing the unnatural practice of trading in fellow-creatures. He contrasted their condition with that of our West India colonies, and pointed out how advantageous had been the abolition of the slave-trade to our dependencies. The statements of the two gentlemen who would address them would show that the emancipation of slaves, instead of being an evil, had been a great blessing to the islands.

Mr. Buxton having been obliged to leave the meeting at once, Mr. G. W. Alexander was requested to occupy the chair.

Mr. E. B. UNDERHILL, who was first introduced to the meeting, said it certainly were a matter to be deeply regretted should the great Act of Emancipation turn out to be a mistake and even a fault.

Christians and philanthropists alike would feel deeply grieved at such a painful consequence, flowing from what they had deemed to be an act of righteousness and of justice. Still, there could be no question that in the minds of many confidence had been shaken with regard to it, on account of the representations which had frequently been made in this country. Perhaps some even of those present had at times felt a little dubious as to whether there might not have been some error in the

thing itself, or at least in the mode in which it was carried into operation. Because of the prevalence of such reports and opinions, the committee of the Baptist Missionary Society had sent out a deputation to examine as far as possible into the whole subject. They went out towards the close of 1859; Mr. Brown remained about six months, and himself a year in Jamaica, and travelled through the greater portion of the island.

It must be admitted, that on the first aspect of the matter it would seem that Jamaica had been injured commercially by emancipation, the exports of staple products of that island having considerably diminished. The exports of sugar had declined from 1,400,000 cwt. in 1831—three years before the Act of Emancipation—to 586,000 cwt. in 1858. This was a strong fast:—so in the article of rum. In 1833 there were exported 35,000 puncheons, and in 1858 only 18,000 puncheons. So again in the article of coffee: in 1839 there were exported 22,000,000 lbs, and in 1858 only 5,250,000 lbs.

And he must admit that on entering the island at Kingston, the state of the streets, the desolation of warehouses, and the decay and ruin of estates in the neighbourhood, produced the impression that there was some truth in the representations made. The state of society, too, in Kingston, seemed to be in a low condition. But there were facts which modified the impression likely to be at first made. It might be affirmed generally, that while Jamaica had suffered, the West Indies on the whole had prospered. In 1833, the year before emancipation, the exports of sugar from all the West Indies was 3,600,000 cwt., and in 1858, 3,500,000 cwt., a diminution only of 100,000 cwt., or 2,000 hogsheads.

One might fairly reply that emancipation could not have been the cause of prosperity in every other island, and the cause of decay in Jamaica; which must therefore be sought in other causes. There had been a great diminution in the exports of coffee, and the cause of this might be found largely in the opening up of Ceylon as a coffee market. From thence, in 1839, only 4,250,000 lbs. were exported, but in 1855 there had come to us an exportation of 56,000,000 lbs. Then with regard to Kingston itself, it should be remembered that there had been a very singular alteration in the course of trade, so that it had ceased to be the great mart for the productions of Europe on their way to the Southern American States—the merchants preferring a direct trade. This would account for many of the largest warehouses being closed. But then there had sprung up an extensive retail trade in the city, which did not exist before, and directly in consequence of the improved social condition of the people. The ruin of the estates might be variously accounted for. All were familiar with what had been stated regarding the mischiefs of absenteeism of former days, the weight of mortgages, and of the frauds perpetrated by agents upon absent owners, which still occurred, for only while he was in Jamaica a case had come to light in which an agent had sold an estate, consequent upon fraudulent representations, for £500, which had been purchased for £1,000.; and hundreds of similar cases had occurred. Moreover, it was only within the last few years that owners had begun seriously to improve their mode of cultivation and to introduce machinery which could enable them to compete with other sugar-growing countries. Want of labour, it had been often urged, was the cause of many estates going out of cultivation. It was said that the negroes would not work, and that they "squatted" upon the land. It was to be expected that when the people were free, the women and children would work less than they had done on the estates.—(Hear, hear)—and that with freedom would spring up other occupations, into which the people would have a perfect right as well as tendency to fall. (Hear, hear.) And, in fact, there had sprung up a large artisan class adapted to meet the wants of a free people. Still an enormous number of agricultural labourers were left—some 187,000 persons. Now, according to the estimated number of labourers required for the sugar estates, 27,000 or 20,000 men, there would still be a surplus of 150,000 for the planters to draw upon, so that it could not be truthfully alleged that the estates were ruined for want of labour. In further proof of this, wages had not risen, but actually fallen since emancipation, which could not be if there was really a want of labour. (Hear, hear.) The main cause of the estates going out of cultivation was the removal of the protective duties on West India sugars in 1858, which left the planters to compete with the growers in the slave States, the mountains, and the East Indies—a work for which they were not prepared. Right or wrong, that was, proximately, the greatest cause of the ruin of the Jamaica estates. (Hear, hear.) But if the planters had suffered, the black people had benefited, beyond all question, by the Act of Emancipation. (Hear, hear.) It was not true that they were an idle people, or that they squatted upon the land, for, in fact, every acre of the land was claimed by somebody. In some cases the negroes remained on the estates where they had lived as slaves after emancipation, but only in cases where the proprietors had acted on principles directly opposite to those which actuated the large mass of the planters. The people left because they were badly treated and could not get their wages. He had visited an estate in the north, and another in the south of the island, which had proved fertile and remunerative, and where no lack of labourers was complained of, because the men were assured of work and properly paid. To show that the negroes were not squatters and improvident, he need only state the fact that three-fifths of the cultivated land in Jamaica is the *bona fide* property of the black people. Estimating the value of the land at 3*l.* 10*s.* an acre, these men, who were but recently slaves, had accumulated landed property worth £1,060,000. Valuing the houses they had built at only 10*s.* each, the sum expended on their cottages would amount to £60,000. Suppose the furniture of each house worth only £2.—about half the real value—would make £30,000. Then they possessed horses, mules, and carts, that might be put down at £50,000.; and the sugar mills, some 5,000 in number at least, belonging to the black people, were worth at least 10*s.* a-piece, giving £500,000. It was not true that the moral and respectable people were gaudily dressed, for, in fact, the congregations were as neatly and suitably dressed as in England. Put down the value of their clothes at 1*l.* each person, would give £36,000. There were deposited in the savings banks in Jamaica £9,390*s.* This would make the sum total of £2,358,000.;—(cheers)—and that was far below the mark. The produce of their industry was shown to

amount to a sum of 2,250,000<sup>l</sup>, which was a fact in itself that proved they were not an idle people; and illustrations in abundance might be supplied of their progress in social comfort. After adducing facts upon this and other points, Mr. Underhill proceeded to say that the people had built some 220 chapels, in which there were churches numbering 53,000 communicants, an eighth part of the entire population. The average attendance on public worship, leaving the State churches out of the question, was 21,000, a fourth part of the people. In the schools there were 22,000 scholars, or one-third of the children. The people raised every year for religious purposes 22,000<sup>l</sup>, and that not by the aid of the Government, but voluntarily. The Government, as much had done nothing to elevate the people, unless it should be said that the 34,000<sup>l</sup> a-year given to the Church contributed to this end. For education there was now granted 3,000<sup>l</sup>. a-year. Taxation had never been favourable to the negro, who had to pay many taxes from which the planters were exempted. Advertising to the moral character of the people, Mr. Underhill admitted that they were largely addicted to petty thefts, duplicity, and falsehood, habits which had been engendered by slavery; but serious, punishable crime was rarely committed, while marriages were on the increase, and education was making some progress; but what the people most wanted was more ample means for the instruction of their children. Reverting to the question of labour, he said that what the planters really required was not more labour, but continuous labour; and the reason they had it not was because the people found it more profitable to cultivate their own land, and because the planters did not assure them of continuous work. Not a few refused to allow their wives and children to work on the estates, because of the immorality that were practised, and not disengaged, but often encouraged, by the planters and their agents. But withal, the estates were improving, and the quantity of sugar produced was increasing; and there was every reason to believe that by proper attention, and the use of suitable machinery, the sugar-growers of Jamaica would be able to compete with their antagonists in all parts of the earth. Already the Cuban planters could not produce sugar at so low a cost as they could in Jamaica.

After some general and earliest remarks on the whole subject, Mr. Underhill resumed his seat amid loud applause.

The Rev. J. P. Brown followed in an effective speech, similar in substance to that reported in our columns some months ago. He said that his imperial judgment was that emancipation was an event which called for deep congratulation, for devout thankfulness to God, and for high and sacred hope. (Applause.)

If the chief thing in all the world was to make sugar; if there was nothing to have joy in but punchions of rum; if one of the main things to be done was to reward absent proprietors, and nourish luxurious excesses; if another of the main things to be done in life was to make a dependent, a subtle, and an easy controlled labourer, tied to his master; if these were the highest objects in life, then he would say there was ground for complaint against the emancipation. But if, on the other hand, to have changed some 300,000 things into persons, to have made their lives happy till they knew not how to express their gratitude, to have planted the germs of civilisation and created a rudimentary society, to have turned mere chattels of the planters into artisans and small landholders, and to have given to a people Gospel and freedom—if that were a good thing, then had the emancipationists deep cause for joy. (Great applause.) He concurred in the statements of his colleague as to the social results which had flowed from emancipation; and he could, if he had time, adduce many facts in their corroboration; but there were many, doubtless, in that meeting who felt, with him, that whilst the social welfare of a people was a good thing, yet that their religious welfare was paramount, and that if they could not have brought good tidings in that respect they must have come home indeed with a heavy heart. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Brown referred to Mr. Trollope's work on the West Indies, and said that whenever persons in Jamaica wished to represent a violent, prejudiced, and obstinate person—one, in fact, who was altogether untrustworthy—they would say of him that he had been "a Trolloping." (Laughter.) That was the name Mr. Trollope had given to such a character in Jamaica. But facts were facts, and, though Mr. Trollope avowed his dislike for statistics, there were some very stubborn ones which stared him in the face.

In the first place the people were orderly in their conduct—well governed and well behaved; persons and property were perfectly safe on the island, and serious crimes were very rare. The marriage tie was respected, and children respected their parents. These were facts which forcibly contrasted with the awful condition of society before the emancipation. Again, the religious statistics of the country spoke loudly in favour of emancipation. They contributed largely towards the expenses of religious worship, and many attended punctually the means of grace. The European Dissenting ministers on the island received 150<sup>l</sup>, per annum, and the native preachers, of whom there were sixteen, from 100<sup>l</sup>. to 150<sup>l</sup>. per annum. There were seventy-seven churches connected with the Baptist body in the island; these included 20,000 communicants and 2,000 anxious inquirers; and although there were at times instances of false profession and cases of backsliding, yet the discipline of this church was good, and their condition altogether in nearly respects furnished good examples for Christian congregations at home. He could not forbear also paying a high tribute to the deacons and elders, who, taken upon the whole, were a fine body of Christian disciples, and true helpers of the ministry. (Hear, hear.) He was aware that there was a great deal of mental ignorance in the island, but even in that respect its condition had materially improved since the emancipation.

The Rev. W. ARTHUR then moved:

That this meeting, by a vote with great pleasure, the satisfactory account given by the deputation of the Baptist Missionary Society of the results of emancipation in the West Indies, and elsewhere in particular, and of the progress made by the negro population in civilisation, intelligence, and piety, and

deem the great Act of Emancipation of 800,000 slaves, an act just and right in itself, as amply vindicated by the success which has attended it.

The Rev. Mr. MATHEWS seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Sir S. M. PETO moved, and Mr. CHAMEROVZOW seconded, the following resolution:

That this meeting expresses its thanks to the gentlemen who have communicated to it the results of their recent visit to the West Indies, and to the chairman for his kindness in presiding on this occasion.

This motion having been carried,

The CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged the vote, and the proceedings terminated.

#### ANOTHER DISASTROUS GALE.

On Wednesday night various parts of the country were visited by a terrific gale, which continued throughout Thursday and Thursday night. The anemometer at Lloyd's marked thirty-six pounds pressure of the wind on the square foot on Thursday evening, at half-past six o'clock. Chimney-stacks out of number were crashing down into streets and gardens, roofs torn off, and trees uprooted. At Lambeth parish church, adjoining the Archbishop's palace, the damage was very extensive. The wind stripped off about thirty feet of the massive leaden covering over the nave, dragging with it a portion of the roof. The lead of the south aisle was also torn off for about fifteen feet, as well as injuring the roof. Shortly after this a lofty stone chimney was dashed from the roof of the vestry, and hurled with violence into the graveyard. The roof of a house in the Clapham-road fell in, and occasioned the loss of three lives. Many stacks of chimneys fell to the ground, in one case causing the death of a child; and several other accidents of lesser importance took place. The most notable effect was produced upon the north wing of the Crystal Palace, which was completely thrown down, and lies upon the ground as a huge pile of ruins, which rather suggest that every part of the building has been carefully broken into small pieces than that it has been merely blown down. A tremendous explosion could not possibly have shattered the place more effectively. The woodwork is all in small pieces, the cast-iron columns are broken up like glass, and the tie rods twisted and torn into every shape. Fortunately, there was nothing in this wing but the empty pens used at the late poultry show, and a number of garden seats; all these, of course, are more or less destroyed. The damage done at Chatham has been very considerable. There was also a tremendous explosion at Curtis and Harvey's gunpowder mills, near Hounslow, which shook the houses at Teddington and Twickenham to their very foundations. Portions of trees were cast across the mill-streams in sundry directions. Another, and still more serious explosion, supervened, which blew to atoms another corner house, and two other similar buildings. Happily, no lives appear to have been lost.

At Northampton, a house was literally blown down, occasioning a loss of two lives. From Plymouth we learn that a French brig was driven ashore, and became a hopeless wreck. It is believed that three of the crew have unhappily perished. An unfortunate event happened at Chichester, when the beautiful spire of the cathedral, of which the inhabitants were justly proud, fell to the ground. The accident was occasioned by the unsoundness of one of the piers upon which the spire rested.

On Thursday, in consequence of the receipt of a telegram from Rear-Admiral Fitzroy, a storm signal was hoisted from the harbourmaster's office in Shields harbour, which was repeated on Friday; and, with the exception of some obstinate old collier captains, who would insist on going to sea, right or wrong, and who did go, a very considerable fleet, ready for sea, remained in port, the seamen in view of the warning refusing to go out. On Thursday no vessels could get out of port on account of the state of the sea, and about midnight a perfect hurricane of wind came on, with a torrent of rain, and it continued to blow "great guns" several hours.

#### Law and Police.

A CLERGYMAN MARRYING HIMSELF.—In the appeal case of Beamish v. Beamish, on Thursday, the House of Lords decided that a clergyman had no power to solemnise his own marriage, and that the issue of such a marriage was illegitimate. The case has excited considerable interest in Ireland.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK FRAUDS.—Durden, the clerk who has committed the enormous frauds upon the Commercial Bank, was examined at Bow-street on Thursday. His alleged accomplice was examined at the same time. The evidence as to the guilt of the clerk was conclusive—he having explained to the manager how he had perpetrated the fraud, what was its amount, and in what manner he had disposed of the money. The prisoners were committed for trial.

INSOLVENT'S ESTATE EXTRAORDINARY.—The accounts of Dr. Humphreys, late schoolmaster of Cheltenham, and of elopement notoriety, show the following extraordinary results. Amount of debts 26,579<sup>l</sup>. 18s. 0jd. Total assets received (subject to expenses of audit and dividend meetings) 111<sup>l</sup>. 11s.

THE BAPTISTS IN THE LAW COURTS.—The case of Perry v. Shipway was on in Vice-Chancellor Stuart's Court yesterday. It was a motion to commit John Evans, Charles Shipway, and William Burrell, to custody for contempt in committing a breach of an injunction, dated the 5th of May, 1859, restrain-

ing the defendant Shipway, his agents, and servants, from disturbing, hindering, or molesting the pastor, deacons, and members of the congregation of Particular, or Calvinistic Baptists, in the performance of Divine service in the chapel of Sible Hedingham, in Essex, or from otherwise disturbing, molesting, or hindering any of the members in the use of the chapel, and also restraining Shipway from officiating as pastor of that congregation, and from preaching or intermeddling with the service in the chapel. The plaintiff's case was that Evans and Burrell were partisans of Shipway, formerly minister of the above chapel, that they had instigated disturbances in the chapel during divine service, and that Shipway had aided and abetted therein. Mr. Malins and Mr. F. J. Turner were for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Bacon for Evans; and Mr. Craig for Shipway and Burrell. The Vice-Chancellor said that the question was whether the injunction which had been granted at the hearing of the cause had been violated by all or any of the persons for whose committal an order was now asked. He was of opinion that both the letter and the spirit of the order had been violated. The decree had for its object the quieting of the possession of the trustees in whom the legal estate of the chapel at Sible Hedingham was vested, and who had been annoyed and disturbed by the unseemly proceedings which made it necessary to grant the injunction. The Vice-Chancellor referred to portions of the evidence, and said that he was of opinion that Evans, Shipway, and Burrell had all violated the order of the Court and acted in a manner wholly unjustifiable; and, although Shipway might not have entered the chapel, yet it was clear he was at the bottom of the disturbances complained of. There must be an order to commit Evans, Shipway, and Burrell, who must also pay the costs of this motion.

#### Miscellaneous News.

PEMBROKE ELECTION.—The polling for the Pembroke boroughs closed on Thursday evening. Sir Hugh Owen, the Liberal candidate, was returned by a majority of eighty-six.

COTTON FROM EGYPT.—An English company is at present negotiating with M. Leesope for the land in Egypt which belongs to the company for cutting the canal to Suez. It appears that this land is well suited to the cultivation of cotton.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—At a meeting of the members of this society, held in London on Wednesday evening, Mr. C. Gilpin, M.P., made a statement from which it appears that the society now numbers 10,000 members, residents in all parts of the country. Since the commencement of its operations in May, 1849, up to the 31st October, 1860, the amount of deposits reached 1,802,749<sup>l</sup>, to which must be added 54,475<sup>l</sup> interest on paid up shares. The withdrawals during the same period reached 1,480,046<sup>l</sup>.

THE LIVINGSTONE EXPEDITION.—MRS. LIVINGSTONE'S VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE.—Favourable accounts have been incidentally forwarded of the well-being of the expedition, Dr. Livingstone being especially stout and well. Mrs. Livingstone has been staying at Cambridge, at Aubrey Villa, the residence of the Rev. William Monk, during the past few days. She will return to Africa after the lapse of sufficient time to arrange family matters in England. She has been introduced to many of our most distinguished residents—at the Rev. Professor Sedgwick's, the Rev. Professor Browne's, the Rev. W. Monk's, and on other occasions.—*Cambridge Independent*.

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS FOR THE REDEMPTION OF FOUR CHILDREN FROM SLAVERY.—The object has been accomplished chiefly by thousands of small contributions of one postage stamp and upwards from the juvenile readers of the "Band of Hope Review." The readers of "The Book and its Missions" have also added their quota in shilling contributions. No doubt is entertained that, before the 28th day of this month, when the account will be closed, an additional sum will be realised for the expenses of Messrs. Gross and Smith on their return to America.—*Watchman*.

HANDSOME CONDUCT.—The *Sheffield Independent* records an act of munificence to a body of working men in that town. When the late Mr. T. M. Johnson, of the Cyclops Works, died some years ago, he expressed a wish that a sum of money should be distributed among his workpeople; but did not add any provision to his will, which had been made some years. The executors, one of whom was his brother, were not legally required to pay this money, but determined that it should be paid, though from various circumstances they could not carry out their intention for a considerable time. At length, however, they obtained from the Court of Chancery the necessary authorisation; and on Thursday last the workpeople, numbering 130, were convened, and to their great joy received sums, varying from 2*l*. to 100*l*, according to length of service, &c., the total amount distributed being about 3,000*l*.

MR. LAING AND CANADIAN RAILWAY SPECULATION.—The *Spectator* observes that a serious charge has been made against Mr. Samuel Laing, the new Finance Minister for India. In 1852, as one of a company, he entered into a contract with Mr. George Wythes, of Reigate, to construct a railway from Hamilton to Toronto for the sum of 325,000*l*. The railway cost 418,672*l*. It is charged that, after Mr. Laing had ceased to be a director or a shareholder, he went to the Board meetings and advocated the claim of Mr. Wythes, and that Mr. Laing was all this time, while contracting with Mr. Wythes,

and while presiding over the meeting of the Great Western shareholders and getting them to adopt the Hamilton and Toronto line, the partner of Mr. Wythes in this very contract. These statements are made in the report of a committee of investigation into the affairs of the Great Western of Canada, and were referred to in the House of Commons on Monday.

**THE EXHIBITION OF 1862.**—The Commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1862 have addressed a letter to Sir Thomas Philips, chairman of the Council of the Society of Arts:—“A plan was submitted to the Commissioners by Captain Fowke, R.E., who had been employed by her Majesty's Government in the British Department of the Paris Exhibition of 1855. This design was adapted to the proposed site, and was intended to meet the practical defects which experience had shown to exist both in the buildings in Hyde-park and in the Champs Elysées. It appeared well adapted for the required purposes, and its principle features were of a striking character, and likely to form an attractive part of the Exhibition. The commissioners submitted the design to the competition of ten eminent contractors, four of whom took out the quantities. Three tenders (one a joint one from two of the contractors invited) were sent in on the day named in the invitation, but all were greatly in excess of the amount which the commissioners could prudently spend, with a due regard to the interests of the guarantors. The commissioners have, therefore, had under their consideration modifications of the plan, which, without destroying its merits, would materially reduce its cost. In conclusion the commissioners say:—“When the guarantee deed has been executed, the commissioners hope to be able to proceed at once with the construction of the buildings, and to announce the rules and regulations for the arrangement of the Exhibition.” On Saturday a final decision relative to the character of the building intended for the Exhibition of 1862 was made by the commissioners, and on the signing of the guarantee of the required sum, the Bank of England will be prepared to advance the amount necessary for carrying out the arrangements for the construction of the edifice, for which a contract has been offered by Messrs. Keil and Lucas Brothers, and which, it is stated, has been accepted by the commissioners. The liability of the guarantors, it is understood, will only come into operation in the event of a loss by the exhibition, and then only to the amount of 200,000L.

#### Literature.

*History of the United Netherlands.* Vols. I. and II.  
By J. L. MOTLEY, D.C.L. London: John Murray.

The readers of this journal have not now for the first time to make the acquaintance of Mr. Motley. On the appearance of his earlier volumes, we were among the first to recognise their great value and to hail the advent of another historian evidently destined to achieve high distinction even in an age which can boast of Macaulay and Hallam, of Prescott and Grote. Our verdict has since been fully ratified, not only by the reading public, but by the more fastidious taste of Oxford, which has conferred on this illustrious stranger the highest literary honour in her power to bestow. And now we have before us two other volumes, amply confirming all the promise of their predecessors and whetting the appetite for the other dainties which this skilful caterer has still in store.

The title of Mr. Motley's volumes will scarcely convey to the general reader any idea of their numerous charms, and in fact, may have rather a repulsive than attractive influence on many minds. The common idea of the Dutchman is not such as to awaken any very great interest in the story of the nation. Few know how full of heroism that story is—how the unpromising exterior of the people has concealed some of the highest and noblest qualities, an intense love of liberty, a sturdy independence, a power of endurance, and a patriotism which has ever clung with an undying love to a country that to strangers is singularly destitute of every thing likely to touch the imagination or charm the heart. Still fewer appreciate the importance of the service which that little Republic has rendered to the great cause of freedom, or understand that amid those dikes and sandbanks was fought that battle which virtually decided the destinies both of England and Europe. Many, therefore, would be ready to turn away with indifference, if not with disgust from a theme which appears so uninviting, little suspecting how much there is to fascinate him who seeks in history only the excitement of a romance—how much to instruct him who desires rather to learn from it those great spiritual and philosophical lessons of which it is so valuable a teacher. It would not be easy to find anywhere a recital more thrilling “of most disastrous chances; of moving accidents by flood and field; of hair-breadth'scapes in the imminent deadly breach.” And, certainly, still more difficult would it be to point to events whose influence has been more wide-spread and enduring.

The “United Netherlands” constitute, in truth, only the centre round which the narrative

revolves. Mr. Motley is here telling the story, as he puts it himself, “of the great combat between despotism, sacerdotal and regal, and the spirit of rational human liberty.” Viewed thus, it has an interest for all nations and for all times. The same struggle is, in other forms and happily for the most part with other weapons, carried on still, and the champions of freedom now may look back to find here example to guide and stimulus to encourage. Never was conflict waged against more tremendous odds—never did the cause of liberty appear more hopeless—never was trial more bitter and protracted—and never was success more complete and glorious. It is one of the most graphic of those illustrations of which history is so full, of the way in which, in the cause of right and truth, “God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.”

To tell such a story well is a work of no ordinary difficulty, and few could have brought to it the rare combination of qualities by which Mr. Motley is distinguished. With a patient industry in research, which descends to the careful examination of the most minute details, he unites a power of generalisation, which enables him to assign to each event its own proper place, and record the whole with the eye of a philosopher and a statesman. With a high appreciation of eminent worth, he is yet free, to a large extent, from that wretched spirit of hero-worship which has defaced so much of our modern historical writing. An ardent lover of liberty, he is yet not insensible to the faults into which many of its advocates were betrayed, nor is he unwilling to recognise the high qualities which too often despotism was able to enlist on its behalf. Though an American, he evidently has a deep veneration for the old mother-country, feels that in the glories of all her old struggles her Transatlantic descendants have a right to claim their full share, and is able to admire the race of heroes who laid the foundations of her future greatness and liberty. Perhaps, as a Republican, he was scarcely able to do full justice to the merits of our “good Queen Bess.” The despotism and caprice of her Tudor nature could hardly fail to throw a shadow over those eminent qualities which made her not only the first sovereign of her day, but one of the greatest monarchs that ever swayed the English sceptre; but if (as we shall hereafter show) he has done but scant justice to the queen, he has made some compensation by the high tribute he bears to the heroism and self-devotion of her people.

Mr. Motley's opportunities for investigating the history of the period have been as abundant as his qualities are rare. Not only have the “leading contemporary chronicles and pamphlets of Holland, Flanders, Spain, France, Germany, and England,” been carefully studied, but free access has been enjoyed to the State papers of the various countries, and from them the richest historic treasures have been exhumed. How conscientiously Mr. Motley has made use of all these, and what valuable assistance he has thus secured for a more thorough understanding of the times, the narrative testifies. The correspondence of Philip with his Ministers on the Netherlands affairs itself pours a flood of light on the character and transactions of the period, and our author's diligent investigations of the tortuous policy which is here disclosed are alone sufficient to give distinctive value to his work. Possibly he may have been occasionally seduced by the abundance and the unique character of his materials into a little prolixity—possibly the narrative of Leicester's Viceroyalty, and of the deceptive negotiations with Farnese, would have gained force, without any sacrifice of accuracy, by the abridgement of some of the details, but these are very slight exceptions when placed in comparison with the great gain to history by the faithful use of the original documents. It is singular, indeed, to mark how the epistolary habits of the great intriguer have prepared for future ages the evidences of a duplicity so horrible, of an “organised hypocrisy” so monstrous, that no lighter proof of its existence could have obtained credence. Philip of Spain does not bear a name which has ever been held in honour, but the full extent of his baseness would have been incredible but for the damning revelations which his own pen has given, and which these volumes for the first time disclose to the world.

Of the style in which the work is written we need not say much. To assert that it is without faults would be too much, but those we find we impute rather to a little carelessness than to any more serious cause. That there are occasional marks of haste, the careful reader will discover; but they are scarcely worthy to be mentioned as forming any serious subtraction from the merits of a style which is vigorous without being rugged and eloquent though not strained, which attains all the vividness of pictorial effect with-

out the sacrifice of truth, which never seeks to conceal shallowness of thought by beauty of expression, which, with all its brilliancy, values historical accuracy more than striking antithesis, and which clothes the whole of the narrative with an intense reality. Few writers, in fact, have succeeded in giving a more life-like character to their narrative. The events are not only related, but you feel that you are yourself moving among their spirit-stirring scenes; the actors are not merely lay-figures or unmeaning names, but they are living men with whom you have made acquaintance, and in whose fortunes you have deepest interest. Few volumes present us with a richer gallery of portraits, drawn with consummate art, and, in general, with strict fidelity. At one time we move in Spanish circles and study the marvellous pictures of the heartless despot, spinning his webs of crafty intrigue at Madrid, with unwearied industry seeking to work out the projects of his own ambition, the very magnitude of his crimes investing them with a terrible sublimity—a heartless unbeliever in all human right, a wanton trifler with every sentiment of honour, a ferocious bigot who deemed that his will was sufficient to arrest the advancing tide of truth and freedom. We pass from his cabinet to the camp of his more brilliant and accomplished, but not less subtle and bigoted, nephew—equally distinguished as a soldier and a statesman, but sully-ing all his fame by the mean and wretched falsehoods to which he condescended—now fascinating us by his dauntless courage, his lofty bearing, his dazzling genius, and anon awakening our intense disgust by the base prostitution of all his powers—now exciting regret that such great talents should be devoted to the service of despotism, but soon making us feel that so false a heart was worthy only of so base a cause. We go to the opposite ranks, and still there is something to engage the eye,—Saint Aldegonde, the man of large heart, of elegant taste, of varied accomplishments—rich in intellectual gifts, daring in valour, generous in feeling, but lacking that strong decision which is, above all, necessary to times of revolution, and thus failing in the hour of trial, and exposing himself to undeserved suspicion,—Hohenlo, the rough, gallant, impetuous soldier, lacking all refinement, and often degrading himself by excess, passionate even to fury and violent even to brutality, yet ever faithful to his country and ever valiant in her defence—Olden-Barneveld and Paul Buys suddenly transformed into statesmen, but by their sagacity, acuteness, and decision, sustained by unbending rectitude and ardent patriotism, confounding those who were disposed to look down on these aspiring “mechanicals.”—Schenck, the dashing freebooter, without principle, without patriotism, without personal devotion to any cause, but fertile in expedient, reckless of danger, covetous of conflict, and dealing out terrible blows to those who had roused in him the spirit of vengeance,—and last, but not least, the young Maurice, quietly pursuing his work of preparation, conscious of high thoughts and purposes within, giving little promise yet of the abilities which he was afterwards to display, but patiently waiting his time, and maturing for that illustrious part to which he was destined in this grand drama.

Then we have sketches from our English Court, drawn as they have rarely been before: the great Queen herself, haughty but heroic, vigorous in speech but too often hesitating in action, never wanting in sincerity, but trusting too much to the word of others, sullying many high qualities by feminine caprice, Tudor pride, and petty parsimony,—her favourite Leicester, whose personal courage was poor compensation for the absence of other qualities essential to a leader, and whose sacrifices for the cause of the Netherlands and of freedom were but a slight atonement for the evils inflicted by overweening vanity, insufferable arrogance, a jealous distrust of all men of capacity, and a love of flattery which made him the ready prey of parasites and traitors,—Walsingham, often wearied by the humours of his mistress, but firm in his devotion to her and always the steady and sagacious friend of liberty, rising above the intrigues which were around him, but too frequently counteracted by the “long grey beard with a white head wileless” (as Lord Admiral Howard calls him), the overrated Lord Burleigh, who seems to have been the evil genius of his sovereign throughout these events, encouraging her to believe in Spanish sincerity and continue negotiations long after they had been proved to be nothing but a mask for warlike preparations. Besides these are minor portraits not less striking. Roger Williams, the hot-headed Welchman, marvelling at the delays, the credulity, and the selfishness of others, while intent himself only on noble and manly deeds,—Norris, the gallant commander, thwarted, crossed, misrepresented, but never faltering in his loyalty; and in a more comic vein those precious specimens of diplo-

matic fools, Croft the comptroller, and Rogers the pedant. Nor must we forget the companion pictures from the Court of France—the wretched fop who bore the name of king, the ambitious chieftain who was willing to betray his sovereign and little fancied that he washimself only an instrument in the hand of a more crafty and unscrupulous intriguer,—the good-humoured Bearnese, the soul of all chivalry, but losing the fruits of his gallantry by his own weakness,—and that wretched woman whose life and power were rapidly drawing to a close, but who still sought to hold in her hands the skeins of that tangled web of policy which had so long cursed one of the fairest lands of Europe.

The very sketch we have attempted of the characters successively introduced by Mr. Motley may serve to show how large his canvas, and to indicate the deep interest that attaches to the unravellings of his plot. With marvellous power does he trace the history of the five eventful years over which the volumes extend. Very skilful is his representation of the forces arrayed under the respective banners, and very thrilling his recital of their conflicts. The abortive negotiations of the States with France, the difficulties which hemmed them in on every side, the siege of Antwerp, with all its romantic incidents, and sad disasters, the administration of Leicester, the constant misunderstandings between the Netherlands and England, the illusory discussions about peace into which Elizabeth suffered herself to be beguiled, and finally, the preparation and defeat of the "invincible Armada" are all described with a master's art. The reader is often carried on as by a resistless power; with breathless interest he watches the shifting scenes of the picture, and when he lays down the book, still cherishes in his memory the men and the events that have so long riveted his attention.

If Mr. Motley is anywhere unjust, it is, as we have already intimated, to Queen Elizabeth. We are not undiscriminating admirers of that greatest of the Tudors—we can see great faults in the queen and still greater in the woman; but we are not prepared to adopt all Mr. Motley's conclusions. It would not be difficult, indeed, to find in some parts of his volumes admissions that ought materially to have modified the strong assertions he has made in others. He censures strongly, and in a degree justly, her parsimony and her readiness to believe in the vain promises of peace which the Spaniards were ever ready to give and just as ready to break; but he does not make sufficient allowance for the natural reluctance which the sovereign of a State so small, and apparently so feeble, must have felt to embroil herself with the ruler of the mightiest monarchy of the world. It is scarcely possible for us, in the altered relative position of the two countries, to understand the state of things in the seventeenth century, and we judge Elizabeth somewhat harshly, from our failure to appreciate the true difficulties of her circumstances. Nor should we forget how those economical tendencies which were pushed to such an extreme as to constitute one of her greatest faults, were fostered by the timid counsels of Burleigh, who was always ready to whisper in her ear words of false confidence and undermine the influence of bolder and more sagacious statesmen.

We are glad that Mr. Motley has not been seduced into the sentimental sympathy with Mary Queen of Scots which has led so many writers to ignore some of the most established facts. He summarily dismisses questions about which so much controversy has been raised, by quietly speaking of her as the murderer of her husband, and admitting, not only that she was a participant in the Babington conspiracy, but also "the centre of an endless conspiracy by Spain and Rome against the throne and life of Elizabeth." On such admissions we are content to rest any apology that we might attempt for the English Queen. That her conduct was not, according to the theory of some writers, merely the result of personal jealousy, is evident from the fact, nowhere more manifest than in the narrative before us, that she long resisted the counsels of her Ministers, who had for years been convinced that the death of Mary was essential to the stability of the monarchy. We regret that a writer, in general so impartial as our author, should have accepted the story, resting on what we deem insufficient evidence, of Elizabeth's attempt to instigate the assassination of her rival.

Elizabeth's persecutions no one can defend, but Mr. Motley himself has furnished us with an extenuation for acts which can never be justified.

"Moreover, it should never be forgotten (from undue anxiety for impartiality) that most of the Catholics who were executed in England suffered as conspirators rather than as heretics. No foreign potentate, claiming to be vicegerent of Christ, had denounced Philip as a bastard and usurper, or had, by means of a blasphemous fiction, which then was a terrible reality, severed

the bonds of allegiance by which his subjects were held, cut him off from all communion with his fellow-creatures, and promised temporal rewards, and a crown of glory in heaven to those who should succeed in depriving him of throne and life. Yet this was the position of Elizabeth. It was war to the knife between her and Rome, declared by Rome itself; nor was there any doubt whatever that the seminary priests, seedlings transplanted from foreign nurseries, which were as watered gardens for the growth of treason, were a perpetually organised band of conspirators and assassins, with whom it was scarcely an act of excessive barbarity to deal in somewhat summary fashion. Doubtless it would have been a more lofty policy, and a far more intelligent one, to extend towards the Catholics of England, who, as a body, were loyal to their country, an ample toleration; but it could scarcely be expected that Elizabeth Tudor, as imperious and absolute by temperament as her father had ever been, would be capable of embodying that great principle."—(IL, 291, 292.)

We had marked several passages for extract, but we prefer rather to send our readers to the volumes themselves, assuring them that they will find in their perusal high intellectual gratification.

*Burrowdale: A Tale.* London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

A BOOK could hardly say less for itself than is said by this brief title,—followed by no explanatory or apologetic preface. Goodwill to the book is almost sure to be begotten in the minds of those who read much, on finding a writer willing to be understood and judged simply by the art and purpose of *what is done*. A single sentence from St. Paul, given as a sort of motto to this tale, prepares one to expect a definite intention and an earnest spirit in it. It is this:—"All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any." And the story brings out a special application of these ever-pregnant words, with a sincerity and force by which the work is raised much above the common moralisings of fiction that are enough to weary and disgust one. It has been thoroughly felt by the writer that a good moral cannot, and ought not to, commend a bad story: but that, being a good moral, it deserves a good story; and in the proportion of its significance to the excellence of individual life, or to the soundness of the social life, is itself capable of being illustrated, commended, and honoured, by a thoughtfully constructed and patiently elaborated story. While, then, "Burrowdale" is designed to exhibit, in their lesser enormity, but—and partly for that reason—in their subtler, all-pervading, long-perpetuated influences, the evils of the drinking habits of society, it is no mere temperance tale, and is not overlaid with commonplace moralities about drunkenness and abstinence. Indeed, its purpose includes further social reform, and more various social benefits, than the word *temperance* represents:—especially, the duty and value of sympathy, of the cultivation of a feeling of responsibility, and of direct personal effort, in the "higher classes," relatively to the condition of the people and the tone and tendency of society. It contains, also, its own indication—and a thoughtful and decided one, too—of the environments and influences that furnish the better part of the education of a woman; and, perhaps more than either, supplies illustration of the controlling and purifying powers of a piety at once calmly rational and truly intense, when brought by sickness and death into the presence of elegant worldliness and cultivated unbelief.

We do not say that there is no weak place in the story, or that the art of fault-finding might not be successfully exercised upon it: but we do say, that all its teachings are most naturally and intimately inwoven with the story; and that, apart from all its teachings, it is of genuine interest for its great variety of character, its diversified scenes, and its plot and incident.

There is real power in the delineation of several of the prominent characters; and a consistency of development, and an atmosphere of real life, have been attained, which may be accounted the writer's highest success. Lord Burrowdale is a probable character, even in his eccentricity; but is not one of the most interesting, though of the most excellent in point of personal virtue. Edith has been studied and elaborated with what seems to us characteristically a woman's sense of the lovely and noble in woman: and sometimes she is charming; though, we cannot hide our masculine prejudice that she is on the whole too good and too clever to be safely wedded by any ordinary man. There is a very subtly unfolded character in the Italian Voltari; and a well-marked instance, in Dr. Mordaunt, of a character, unhappily too common, drawn to the life, of a man corrupted, morally deadened, and in process of being unhumanised, by the one vice of drinking, though otherwise a gentleman, of affectionate heart, of large culture, and of genial spirit. The last scenes of the life of Chesterfield—the likeable but unapprovable man of the world—with much natural virtue, but destitute of sensibility and moral aim—are drawn with remarkable truth and power, and are full of tenderness and pathos. The dear Quaker, nurse Raymond, is, to our mind, altogether the most charming figure in the book; and many will not read without tears the conversations of the true, simple, but most wise Christian, with poor dying Chesterfield.

If any of our readers, led to the book by our sympathetic words, should feel inclined to object to such little bits of incident as gentlemen leaving a drawing-

room during a party to have a quiet drink together; or to Miss Leslie's—very admirable lady—own particular mystery; or to Lord Burrowdale's altar, sacrifice, and priestly oration, on occasion of dooming his cellar of wine to destruction, we will agree that they shall have their fling at these as they will. And when they have done they will like the book as we do.

*Our Exemplars, Poor and Rich; or, Biographical Sketches of Men and Women who have, by an Extraordinary Use of their Opportunities, benefited their Fellow-creatures.* Edited by M. D. HILL, Recorder of Birmingham. With Preface by Lord BROUGHAM. London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

THIS work originated in a suggestion of Lord Stanley's, made at a gathering of Mechanics' Institutes some eighteen months ago. It has, however, as Lord Brougham remarks, "diverged considerably from the object then held up to view." The proposal was, to describe "the rise and progress to wealth and eminence of men who, by the exercise of their own powers of mind and body, have risen from the humbler classes." This has been modified, or rather exchanged, for the far loftier and more desirable object, stated in the title, to describe the career and labours of men and women, "who have, by an extraordinary use of their opportunities, benefited their fellow-creatures." The object at which Lord Stanley aimed had been well served years ago, by Mr. Craik's admirable and still unsurpassed "Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties," while a still higher object than "wealth or eminence" was pointed out, in the attainment and use of knowledge, to the readers of its skilful sketches. Lord Brougham has noted this fact; and has named Dr. Smiles's "Self-Help," which appeared soon after Lord Stanley's suggestion, as perhaps nearly realising that earnest young nobleman's suggestion. Both the venerable and celebrated writer of the Preface, and the well-known philanthropic editor of this volume, have, however, criticised Dr. Smiles on a few points, while admitting the great general excellence of his work; and we are glad to call attention to the impression of these able men, which accords with that felt by many of us, that Dr. Smiles is not to be accepted as a teacher in the proportion of his gifts as an interesting writer.

We have more than once expressed the opinion, that there has been quite enough glorification of "self-help," "success," and "men who have risen," in the many publications that have recently been offered to the people on this tempting theme. We feel greatly refreshed in finding this book of another spirit altogether. Its biographical sketches really present to our sympathy and study those who should be "our exemplars;" and all illustrate the truth so well expressed by Lord Brougham—"that neither the temptations which beset rank, power, and wealth, nor the hindrances interposed by poverty, ignorance, infirmity, and even disease, are sufficient to prevent man or woman, desirous of doing good, from compassing that great object"—that, "all, in every rank, possess the ability of adding to the stock of human happiness." The selection of examples has been, of course, limited by the requirements, as to size and character, of a popular work; and, further, by the fact that many lives are already too familiarly known to need reproduction in such a volume of sketches. The principle observed by the various authors has for the most part been this:—"Persons of eminence have been chosen—persons distinguished from others, generally from all others—for some peculiarity either in talents, acquirements, or success." These are the words of Lord Brougham:—Do they not fittingly define true eminence? But to this remark it is justly added, relatively to some names hardly known to fame that will be found here,—"there is much to be learnt from the history of those who have neither gained any renown, nor attained brilliant position, nor even displayed rare capacity; and the record of their inferior merits and humbler fortunes is both a useful lesson to others, and a benefit to society."

The names of the individuals selected for memorial, are scarcely such as would be anticipated even by most thoughtful persons, on opening the book. We will not recount them all. The Earl of Shaftesbury is very appropriately the first: and those who remember the young King of Portugal's visits to the yellow-fever hospitals in his capital, when panic had seized all classes, will consider it not unsuitable that he should be remembered here. Father Mathew and Dr. Spratt represent the greatest epoch of the Temperance movement. Captain Macdonochie stands for merciful and wise reformatory tendencies; and Rowland Hill for the most important benefit rendered to the intercourse, commercial and friendly, of the corners of the land one with another. Christopher Thomson and John Plummer represent the artisan class, at once in its social theories and efforts, and in its artistic and poetic capabilities:—and let those who don't know who they are, be sure to get this book forthwith. That William and Robert Chambers should be here, everyone will cordially approve: that Charles Knight is absent, is due only to his own modesty and sensitiveness. But surely there was no need to epitomise Southey's life of John Bunyan, for such a volume as this! and scarcely more necessary was it to include John Smeaton:—both, indeed, worthy, but excluded by the principle of selection prevailing in all the other cases. We are especially delighted at the selection of women; from the late Lady Byron—whom so few know to have been all that she

was down to Bridget Burke, the cook, and Catherine Wilson, the factory-girl, of whom let every woman and girl read only the little that is here written, and say if they too are not God's gentlewomen and "our exemplars." The whole book is pervaded by the purest spirit of moral elevation and human kindness; and deserves more than any other of its class known to us to be commended to all readers—as also it is likely to exert influences both truly elevating and enduringly useful. We do not intend to advocate the indiscriminate multiplication of such books, or to encourage the imitation of this by book-makers, when we say that there are still names, of both the dead and the living, which might perhaps be made, by the hands of the same sketchers, to yield even more instruction and impulse than most of those that are here.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Davidson's Book of Anthems.  
Youths' Magazine, 1860.  
Friendly Sketches in America. By Wm. Tallack.  
Universal Restoration. A Poem. By George Calvert. Two Vols.  
A Ramble with the City and Town Missionaries. By John Shaw, M.D.  
The Bishop's Walks and the Bishop's Times. By Orwell.  
Holiness. By Rev. F. Ferguson, M.A.  
Bibliotheca Sacra. Vol. XVIII.  
Introduction to the Pentateuch. By Rev. D. Macdonald, M.A. Two Vols.

## Gleanings.

Ladies, please be sweet, but don't be too formal. Be roses—but don't be prim roses.

The new ladies' magazine, to be edited by Mrs. S. C. Hall, is to be called the "St. James's Magazine."

A new story by the Author of "The Mill on the Floss" is said to be now completed. It will be published immediately after Easter.

A barrister has just published a poem, in which he describes cows drinking as "sipping the liquid glass."

It is stated that some six hundred pictures had to be denied admission to the present exhibition of the British Institution—nearly as many as could be accepted.

The number of Eton men in the House of Commons is 105, or nearly one-sixth. A Westminster man claims twenty-eight members from his school.

Mr. Murray has brought out a volume called "Health, Husbandry, and Handicraft," formed of papers contributed to *Once a Week* by Miss Martinus.

The famous Doomsday Book of William the Conqueror is now at the Ordnance Map Office, Southampton, for the purpose of being copied by the new process of photozincography.

The library of the late Baron Alexander Von Humboldt is now in London, having been purchased by Mr. H. Stevens; and will, we understand, be again distributed by auction or otherwise.

Dr. Johnson said if he was married to Lady Cotten, he would live a hundred miles away from her, and make her write to him. "Once a week," added he, "I could bear a letter from the creature, but it is the poorest talker, sure, that ever opened lips."

The Rev. Rowland Hill used to ride a great deal, and by exercise preserved vigorous health. On one occasion, when asked by a medical friend what physician and apothecary he employed, he replied, "My physician has always been a horse, and my apothecary an ass."

Lord Campbell said he himself heard a judge at Stafford thus sentence a prisoner to death for forgery:—"And I trust, through the merits and mediation of our blessed Redeemer, you may experience that mercy in another world, which a due regard to the credit of the paper currency of the country forbids you to hope for here."

A new periodical, to be called the *Museum*—a quarterly magazine of education, literature, and science—is announced. The chief contributors are Mr. Edwin Chadwick, the Rev. J. Currie, Mr. W. Scott Dalgleish, the Rev. F. W. Farrar, Mr. Joshua G. Fitch, Mr. James Hannay, Dr. J. D. Morrell, Mr. James Pillans, the Rev. H. G. Robinson, and Dr. Schmitz.

Mr. E. Walford, sub-editor of *Once a Week*, formerly scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, has signified his intention of becoming a candidate for the Classical Examinership in the London University, vacant by the death of Dr. Donaldson. He is the author of the "Handy Book of the Greek Drama," "Handy Book of the Civil Service," "History of Greece," and several popular school-books.

**MAKING A SELECTION.**—An anecdote obtains of the late Rev. Mr. H.—, minister of R.—, who resolving to pay his addresses to one of the three daughters of the Rev. Mr. W.—, of C.—, proceeded cautiously to discriminate in regard to their respective qualifications. He was ultimately led to a conclusion by the following circumstances:—He

had been dining at C.—manse, the three young ladies being present. After dinner cheese was produced. Each of the misses received an outside portion of the cheese, and all used their portions differently. One scraped the skin, a second pared it off, and a third ate her portion as it was. That evening Mr. H.—asked in marriage the young lady who had by scraping her portion indicated her desire for cleanliness combined with economy.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTHS.

FOLKES.—February 16, at Hillington Rectory, near King's Lynn, the wife of the Rev. H. E. B. Folkes, of a son.

JUKES.—February 18, at Sandwell Villas, West Bromwich, the wife of the Rev. J. Griffith Jukes, of a daughter.

EARLE.—At Grange Court, the wife of the Rev. W. Earle, M.A., of twins, a girl and a boy.

## MARRIAGES.

HARRISON—ROBINSON.—February 18, at Lister Hills Independent Chapel, Bradford, by the Rev. A. Russell, A.M., Mr. Richard Harrison, formerly of Buckingham, to Hephzibah, youngest daughter of the late Rev. R. Robinson, of Hallford Parsonage, Rochdale.

ANDREWS—WAY.—February 18, at the Independent Chapel, Isle of Portland, by the Rev. J. Cheney, Mr. John Thomas Andrews, to Miss Mary Way, both of Portland.

BODEY—WHITEFIELD.—February 17, at Cross-street Chapel, Barnstaple, by the Rev. —Jollimont, eldest son of Mr. William Bodey, of Bristol, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Mr. William Whitefield, of Barnstaple.

JUFE—COLLARD.—February 19, at the Independent Chapel, Lynton, Devon, by the Rev. J. M. Charlton, of the Western College, Plymouth. Martha, youngest daughter of William Collard, Esq., of Lynmouth, to Mr. Isaiah M. Jupe, silk-throwster, of Mere, Wiltsshire.

THOMAS—JONES.—February 21, at the Tabernacle, Trowbridge, by the Rev. T. Mann, Mr. Isaac Thomas, to Miss Sarah Jones, both of Bristol.

CHAPELL—SMITH.—February 21, at the Baptist Chapel, Silver-hill, Winchester, by the Rev. W. Chappell, of Southampton, the Rev. W. Chappell, of Parchment-street, Baptist minister, to Miss Smith, of Clifton-terrace, Winchester.

MORRELL—CLARKSON.—February 25, at Windsor-lane Chapel, Knaresbro', by the Rev. B. B. Redman, Mr. John Morrell, to Miss Clarkson, both of Harrogate.

## DEATHS.

JONES.—November 24, at Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, in his twenty-fifth year. Richard Henry Jones, son of the Rev. Richard Jones, Gartside-street Chapel, Manchester.

STEPHENSON.—December 23, at North Rhine, near Angaston, South Australia, by a fall from his horse, which he survived only a few hours, Robert Stephenson, Government Surveyor.

CONGLETON.—February 16, at Paris, the Dowager Lady Congleton, in her seventy-ninth year.

WATERS.—February 18, at Hastings, Thomas Waters, Esq., Clerk of the Peace for the City of Worcester, aged forty-eight.

MOUNTAIN.—February 19, Mrs. Mountain, in her eightieth year. For upwards of half a century she was a devoted and consistent member of Windsor-lane Independent Church, Knaresbro'. She lived in the affectionate esteem of all who knew her.

SECKER.—February 20, at Essex-court, Temple, Isaac Onslow Secker, Esq., in his sixty-third year.

LEECHMAN.—February 22, at 9, St. Peter's-square, Hammersmith, James, the youngest son of the Rev. John Leechman, LL.D., aged sixteen years.

LAWRENCE.—February 24, at 2, Upper Hyde-park-gardens, Edith Hamilton, the infant daughter of Sir John and Lady Lawrence, aged eight months and sixteen days.

HOBY.—February 26, at Twickenham; Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. James Hoby, D.D.

## Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

## CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Stock Market has been heavy during the past week. On Monday there was no change for the better. The daily fluctuation in the Funds seldom exceeds  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., owing to the absence of active speculation, or numerous transactions for the actual transfer of stocks, but the position of monetary affairs at home and abroad has recently created a very heavy feeling, and still affects the tendency of values.

To-day there has been an improvement of  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in the English Stock Market, Consols being 91 $\frac{1}{2}$  for Money, and 91 $\frac{1}{2}$  91 $\frac{1}{2}$  for the Account. The New Three and Reduced are 91 $\frac{1}{2}$  91 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Long Annuities, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Exchequer Bills 6s. to 2s. dia. Bank Stock, 234. India Stock, 224; ditto 5 per Cent., 99 $\frac{1}{2}$  99 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; ditto New Scrip, 100 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; ditto 5 per Cent. Enfaced Paper, 100 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; ditto Debentures, 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Although the demand for money is rather quiet, the rates of discount continue firm, very little accommodation being obtainable under the minimum of the Bank of England.

Foreign Securities are moderately active, and prices are well maintained.

The transaction in the Railway Share Market have been very limited, and the variations in prices unimportant.

Joint Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares continue very dull. London and Westminster realise 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Union of London, 24; and Royal Mail Steam, 48 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ . United Mexican Mining Shares have advanced to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  3 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The Board of Trade returns for the month and twelve months ending December 31, have at last been issued. The total exports in the month of December are stated at 12,128,541 $\frac{1}{2}$ , being 1,301,299 $\frac{1}{2}$  more than in December, 1859; and 2,075,347 $\frac{1}{2}$  more than in December, 1858. The exports for the twelve months of 1860 were 135,842,817 $\frac{1}{2}$ , being 5,431,288 $\frac{1}{2}$ , or 4 per cent., more than in 1859, and 19,234,661 $\frac{1}{2}$ , or 16 per

cent., more than in 1858. Under the circumstances, these results are really surprising. The principal increase in the month's shipments is again in cotton manufactures, which have been sent more largely than usual to China, Brazil, and some other parts.

## The Gazette.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)  
An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 52,  
for the week ending on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.  
Notes issued .. £25,563,725  
Government Debt .. £11,055,104  
Other Securities .. 3,456,900  
Gold Bullion .. 10,248,203  
Silver Bullion .. 1,948,000

£25,563,725  
RANKING DEPARTMENT.  
Proprietors' Capital .. £12,583,900  
Bank .. 5,504,236  
Public Deposits .. 5,651,867  
Other Deposits .. 11,453,279  
Seven Day and other Bills .. 590,407

£25,563,725  
Feb. 21, 1861. M. MARSHALL, Cashier

## Friday, Feb. 22, 1861.

## BANKRUPTES.

SMITH, S., Fish-street-hill, builder, March 6, April 5.  
ELM, A. H., Chancery-street, upholsterer, March 6, April 12.  
DAVIS, W. H., Ashbury, farrier, March 6, April 12.  
RANDLE, J., Coventry, builder, March 7, April 5.  
DUTTON, J., Walsall, grocer, March 7, April 5.  
JOHN, W., Pontypriod, grocer, March 8, April 5.  
PHILLIPS, D., North, grocer, March 8, April 5.  
TILLEY, R. W., Weston-super-Mare, draper, March 8, April 5.  
GATES, W., Louis, chemist, March 9, April 5.  
NIXON, J., Lincoln, painter, March 9, April 10.  
LAVENDER, S. W., Liverpool, merchant, March 9 and 27.  
WINE, C., Liverpool, silk merchant, March 9 and 27.  
FOWLER, W., and SANDERSON, T., Liverpool, tea-mERCHANTS, March 9 and 27.  
JONES, T. P., Toxteth-park, near Liverpool, and Liverpool.  
STANDING, A. F., and WILKINSON, C. P., Rouen, founders, March 9 and 27.

## Tuesday, Feb. 26, 1861.

## BANKRUPTES.

SIMSON, W. D., Crayford, Kent, bricklayer, March 8, April 11.  
HUTCH, J. B., Cambridge, stationer, March 18, April 10.  
BILLINGHAM, W. T., Gresham-street, Cheltenham, March 8, April 9.  
BOTTING, E., Brighton, grocer, March 18, April 10.  
MOORE, T., St. Albans, licensed victualler, March 18, April 12.  
BROTHERTON, F., Middlesbrough, Yorkshire, innkeeper.  
BANKS, J., South Wingfield, Derbyshire, bay dealer.  
WEBSLEY, J., Gloucester, tinsmith.  
CARLY, J., Tonbridge-walls, bootmaker.  
GRIFFIN, W., Cradley Heath, Shropshire, smith.  
WHITAKER, J. S., Great Grimbury, cooper, March 26, April 10.  
FRANCIS, L., Manchester, cheese factor, March 12, April 9.

PSICHARD'S PILLS.—The strongest proof of the valuable qualities of these medicines is the high estimation in which they are held by those who have once tried them, and which is testified by the numerous letters, daily received by the proprietor, containing the highest eulogiums of their medicinal and restorative effects. Both pills may be taken together if occasion requires; and for further particulars read carefully the directions which accompany each package.—Address, 6, Charing-cross, London. May be had of all medicine-vendors.—[Advertisement.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—BRIGHTON.—In no organ of the body does disease present itself so frequently and in such varied forms as in the liver, and in no affection is it more important to apply immediate and safe treatment. Holloway's ointment happily places the means of cure within the reach of all: his Pills, acted by energetic friction with his Ointment on the right side, will soon relieve the troublesome dyspeptic symptoms, and perseverance with these preparations will ensure perfect recovery, without any gross medicament in habits or diet. This treatment safely reduces the enlarged liver, so often indicative of too great indulgence in the pleasures of the table; nor is it less efficient in promoting perfect digestion.—[Advertisement.]

CURES OF CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, AND THROAT DISEASES.—An interesting communication to the *Gentle Medicine* from Dr. Champomilis, the distinguished French Physician, confirms the accuracy of the investigations of Dr. de Morgan, and will add, if possible, to the high estimation of the Oil now generally known as "Dr. de Jouffre's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil," as an invaluable curative agent in a class of prevalent dangerous, and too often fatal disorders. Dr. Champomilis prescribed this remedy to numerous patients suffering from chronic bronchitis, laryngitis, and pulmonary consumption in all stages. He observes:—"I cannot hesitate to recommend in this Oil the property of averting the progress of pulmonary tubercular, of curing catarrhal bronchitis, and even phthisis in its most advanced period. I justify my reliance on this medicine not through a blind confidence, but upon the treatment during the last eleven years of upwards of eight hundred consumptive subjects." M. Champomilis further states that the results of comparative experiments with the different varieties of Cod Liver Oil led him to reject the Pale or Yellow Oil as inactive and uncertain in its operation, thus agreeing with the high authorities who have preferred the Dr. de Jouffre's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil on account of its uniform and unfailing efficacy.—[Advertisement.]

## Markets.

## CORN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, Feb. 25.

The foreign supplies last week were—Wheat, 1,092 qrs from Rostock, 180 qrs Hamburg, 722 qrs Denmark, 3,228 qrs Spain, 1,230 qrs Venice, 3,860 qrs Alexandria, 2,380 qrs Black Sea Ports, 6,550 qrs United States, 3,768 qrs East Indies, Barley, 650 qrs from Sweden, 2,268 qrs Denmark, 70 qrs Hamburg, 1,800 qrs Vienna, 2,630 qrs Sulina, 1,600 lbs. flour. Oats, 3,100 qrs from Sweden, 1,805 qrs Denmark, 296 Harlingen, 1,178 qrs coastwise. Peas, 780 qrs from Boston. Tares, 1,010 qrs from Hamburg, 222 qrs coastwise. Flour, 15,763 barrels from United States, 50 sacks from Hamburg, 500 sacks Leghorn. The supply of English wheat at this day's market was moderate, and the finest dry samples realised last Monday's price, but inferior ill-conditioned were scarcely admissible, although offered at lower rates. The arrivals of foreign in the past week have been liberal, but excepting for the finer descriptions last week's prices were barely made, and the sale was slow. Norfolk flour dull, and offering at 40s per sack; American quiet, at fully 5d per barrel less than on Monday last. Barley dull, and grinding 6d to 10d per cwt cheaper. In general poor little doing, and without alteration in price. The arrivals of oats were moderate, trade being quiet, without change of value. There being some quantity of stores clearing, price

prices is to its lower. In consequence little doing, owing to the wet weather.

Hartf.	s. d.	Wheat	s. d.
Bacon and Lard, Red	42 to 62	Dantzig	68 to 78
Ditto White	44 to 52	Hamburg, Red	60 to 72
Lips, Norfolk, and	—	Pomeranian, Red	66 to 68
Yorkshire Red	—	Stock	68 to 88
Scotch	—	Danish and Holstein	60 to 64
Rye	—	East Friesland	60 to 62
Barley, English	48 to 46	Petersburg	54 to 58
—	42 to 47	Riga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	—	Polish Odessa	52 to 58
Beans, mazagan	58 to 42	Marianopolis	—
Ticks	—	Taganrog	—
Harrow	—	Egyptian	42 to 46
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	56 to 66
Peas, White	—	Bavaria, Pomeranian	58 to 42
Grey	49 to 42	Kongnberg	—
Madeira	46 to 42	Danish	52 to 54
Wines (English new)	—	East Friesland	23 to 30
Foreign	—	Egyptian	27 to 29
Oats (English new)	20 to 24	Odessa	23 to 32
Flour town made, per	—	Bacon	—
Sack of 250 lbs	28 to 39	Horse	38 to 42
Linseed, English	—	Pigeon	44 to 46
Baltic	56 to 60	Egyptian	38 to 42
Black Peas	56 to 60	Peas, White	44 to 46
Hempseed	—	Oats	—
Cayenne	50 to 56	Dutch	20 to 27
Cloverseed, per cwt. of	—	Jahde	19 to 26
11½ lbs. English	—	Danish	19 to 24
German	—	Danish, Yellow feed	23 to 25
French	—	Swedish	24 to 27
American	—	Petersburg	24 to 27
Linen Cakes, 12lb to 13lb	—	Flour, per bar. of 196lbs.—	—
Hops, Oats, &c., 10s per ton	29 to 33	New York	29 to 33
Hops Seed 39/4s to 56/4s per last	46 to 50	Spanish, per sack	46 to 50
Carawayseed, per cwt.	28 to 32	Carawayseed, per cwt.	28 to 32

**BREAD.**—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis, are from 8d to 9d; household ditto, 6d to 8d.

**BUTCHERS' MEAT.**—LIVERPOOL, Monday, Feb. 25.

There was a full average time-of-year supply of foreign sheep in our market to-day, chiefly from Germany, *via* Hamburg. The show of beasts and calves tolerably good. The arrivals of beasts from our own grazing districts were seasonably good as to number, and, for the most part, of full average quality. The attendance of buyers was somewhat numerous, and the demand for all breeds ruled steady, at 1s. in some instances an advance in the quotations of 2d per Siba. The principal Sports realized without difficulty 6d per Siba. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 1,300 Scots, and crosses; from other parts of England, 1,100 various breeds; and from Scotland 116 Scots and crosses. We had a full average number of sheep in the market. Prime Down and long-wooled sheep moved off steadily, at an improvement in price of 2d per Siba; the best Downs having realized 6d, but inferior breeds went off slowly. Nevertheless, the quotations were well supported. There were about 2,000 sheep in the market, and which sold at 1s per Siba beneath those in the wool. The lamb trade was inactive, very few having been brought forward. Prices ranged from 6d to 7d per Siba. Calves were in moderate supply, and sales progressed slowly, at last Monday's price. The demand for pigs was not so extensive, and the currencies exhibited a tendency to give way.

Per Siba, to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	2 to 3	6	Pr. coarse woolled	4 to 5
Second quality	3	10	Pr. fine Southdown	5 to 6
Prime large oxen	4	10	Lgs. coarse calves	5 to 5 1/2
Prims. Scots, &c.	4	10	Prims. small	5 to 5 1/2
Coarse inf. sheep	3	8	Large hogs	4 to 5
Second quality	4	2	Neatm. porkers	4 to 4 1/2
Stocking calfs, 12s to 12s. Quarter-liditors pigs, 32s to 36s each.	—	—	Veal	4 to 4 1/2

**NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL,** Monday, Feb. 25.

The supplies of each kind of meat are very moderate; nevertheless, the trade is inactive, at our quotations.

Per Siba by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	3 to 10	to 5	Small pork	4 to 4 1/2
Middling ditto	3	4	Inf. mutton	3 to 3 1/2
Prime large do.	3	8	Middling ditto	4 to 4 1/2
Do. small do.	4	0	Prime ditto	4 to 4 1/2
Large pork	3	6	Veal	4 to 4 1/2

**PRODUCE MARKET,** MESSING-LANE, Feb. 26.

**TEA.**—At the public sales the quantity offered consisted chiefly of scented descriptions, and prices went heavily at barely late rates.

**SOUP.**—The market has been quiet, and prices are steady. In the refined market dried goods have been dealt in at steady rates.

**COFFEE.**—A fair amount of business has been done, and late quotations are firmly supported. The stocks on hand, compared with those of the same period of last year, show very little variation.

**RICE.**—The market has remained quiet and prices have undergone no material alteration.

**SALT-PETER.**—The deals have been restricted, and values are unaltered.

**COVENT GARDEN,** Saturday, Feb. 23.—Supplies of winter greens are improving both in quantity and quality. Continental contributions also continue to be imported. Pine apples and grapes have altered but little since our last. Oranges still make their appearance, at about last week's rates. Good cobs may be had at from 1s to 1s 6d per lb. Cornish asparagus is now arriving in crystals, and in excellent condition; good single heads of it realize from 2d and 4d each. Asparagus, French beans, and new potatoes may also be had. Cucumbers are scarce. Cut flowers chiefly consist of Orchids, Lily of the Valley, Chinese Primulas, Violets, Mignonette, Camellias, Heaths, and Roses.

**PROVISIONS,** Monday, Feb. 25.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,948 hams butter, and 3,451 bacon; and from foreign ports 11,926 cans bacon, 49 boxes and 396 boxes bacon. In the Irish bacon market during the last week the business transacted was quite of a retail character, although (with the exception of the finest Chorlton, &c.) offered at a reduction of 2s to 3s per cwt. The best description of foreign meat a fair sale, but all others are offered lower. The bacon market ruled quiet; dealers purchasing very sparingly. Prices about 1s. lower.

**POTATOES.**—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 25.—Good supplies of potatoes have come to hand by railway as well as by land-carriage. Generally speaking, the trade rules heavy. The following are the prices:—York flukes, 120s to 160s; Scotch Rangolds, 100s to 120s; Ditto cups, 10s to 110s; Ditto rocks, 90s to 100s; Dunbar Regents, 100s to 120s; other kinds, 60s to 90s.

**SEEDS,** Monday, Feb. 25.—The heavy rains and rough weather of the past week have much interfered with the demand for seeds of all descriptions, and to-day there was but a limited trade passing, without alteration in value. Prime samples of all varieties are more inquired for, with but few offerings.

**WOOL,** Monday, Feb. 25.—As the supplies of colonial wool have increased to nearly 50,000 bales, the whole of which will be offered at the next auctions, and as money for commercial purposes is very dear, our market is in a most inactive state, so prices barely equal to last week.

**PIAK, HEMP, COIR,** &c.—Saturday, Feb. 23.—The market for these is still without activity, yet prices are fairly supported. Best India hemp is in moderate request, at 7s. 6d.; best Bihari is a slow inquiry, and cheap qualities are quoted at 3s 6d to 5s per ton. On the whole, the demand for jute and coir goods has been steady, at full quotations.

**OIL,** Monday, Feb. 25.—For linseed oil there is steady demand, both for home use and for export, at 28s 4d per cwt. on the spot. Rape is an improvement in sale, at very full prices. Cocoanut is firmer, and maintains previous rates. In olive and palm the transactions are of a retail nature. Fish oil command very little attention. Sperm is selling at 10d; other kinds rule about stationary in value. Spirits of turpentine is steady at 30s 6d to 31s 6d.

**COALS,** Monday, Feb. 25.—Market heavy, at a reduction on all coals with the exception of Hartlepool. South Hetton's 21s 6d, Hartlepool 21s 6d, Kelton 21s. Braddylls 21, Thorpe 19s 6d, Hartley 18s; Pease 15s 6d.—28 fresh ships.

**TALLOW,** Monday, Feb. 25.—A moderate business is doing in our market to-day, yet prices are well supported. P.Y.C. is quoted at 5s 9d per cwt on the spot. Rough fat is 3s 1d per Siba.

	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.
Stock.....	12801	19277	20720	32940	70910
Price of Yellow Candle.....	to 6s 0d	to 6s 0d	to 6s 0d	to 6s 0d	to 6s 0d
Delivery last Week.....	397	1938	1432	1201	1011
Ditto from the 1st of June.....	89601	87987	82036	65922	61435
Arrived last Week.....	1988	390	1110	694	802
Ditto from the 1st of June.....	85512	92522	91180	88781	108251
Price of Town Tallow.....	61s 0d 55s	61s 0d 54s	61s 0d 50s	60s 0d	50s 0d

### Advertisements.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

**NEWLY-INVENTED APPLICATION** of PREPARED INDIA-RUBBER in the construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.

M. R. EPHRAIM MOSELY,

SURGEON-DENTIST,

9 LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, SOLE INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.

A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of CHEMICALLY-PREPARED INDIA-RUBBER,

in lieu of the gold or bone frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features:—

All sharp edges are avoided; no spring wires, or fastenings are required; a greatly-increased freedom of motion is supplied; a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable; and a fit perfected with the most surprising accuracy, are secured, while the softness and flexibility of the agents employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining tooth when loose or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums.

The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-prepared India-rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may be retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell and taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.

Teeth filled with gold, and Mr. Ephraim Moseley's Enamel Cement, the only stopping that will not become discoloured, particularly recommended for front teeth.

9, GROSVENOR-STREET (W.), LONDON;

14, GAY-STREET, BATH; and

16, ELDON-SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

**TEETH!**—MR. MAURICE'S MINERAL

TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS are universally recognized as being superior to any other Artificial Teeth in Europe for their wonderful imitation, beauty, durability, use, as well as economy. No Springs, nor any painful operation whatever is required. From 5s. per Tooth; or 21s. 10s. an Upper or Lower Set.

Mr. MAURICE, Surgeon-Dentist, 316, Regent-street, opposite the Polytechnic.

**BEST SETS of TEETH.**—EDWD. MILES

and SON, SURGEON-DENTISTS, 15, LIVERPOOL-STREET, Bishopsgate Church, E.C., encourage their Patients and Medical Friends, to whom they have been so largely indebted for the last thirty years, still to avail themselves of the superiority of their BEST SETS of TEETH, every description of which they adapt without pain, and without cut or with springs. Best Stopping with Gold, &c. Extraction for Toothache almost entirely avoided. Extracts from E. Miles and Son's two-shilling book—which is an original work on the teeth—setting forth the essential importance of true and pure work for the mouth, and many other valuable hints to the suffering and toothless, can be had gratis, per stamped envelope, or at their residence,

15, LIVERPOOL-STREET, BISHOPSGATE CHURCH, E.C.

**OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S SARSAPARILLA PILLS.**

These Pills, composed entirely of American vegetable products, exert a most salutary influence over the system, and are instrumental in removing many obstinate and long-standing complaints. Their truly wonderful efficacy is proved by the daily increasing demand for them. Mildly aperient, cleansing the blood, promoting appetite, restoring vigour to the system, free from anything of an injurious tendency, and greatly enhancing the pleasures of life.

In Boxes 1s.

[FEB. 27, 1861.]

## SEWING MACHINES.

Dress and Mantle Makers, Drapers, and Families, are informed that W. F. THOMAS and CO., the original PATENTEEs, have constructed a NEW MACHINE especially for their use. The stitching produced (alike on both sides of the material), is the same as that made by the more expensive machines manufactured by W. F. Thomas and Co., and of which so large a number has been sold within the last few years. Price complete, 10*l.*

The Machines may be seen at 66, Newgate-street, London; 131, Market-street, Manchester; and 54, Union-passage, New street, Birmingham.

**THE BEST and CHEAPEST TEAS and COFFEES in ENGLAND** are at all times to be obtained of PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON, E.C.

Good strong useful Congou Tea . . . . .	2s. 6d.	2s. 8d.	2s. 10d.	3s.	3s. 2d.	and 3s. 4d.
Rich Souchong Teas . . . . .	3s. 6d.	3s. 8d.	3s. 10d.	and 4s.		
Pure Coffees . . . . .	1s. 0d.	1s. 2d.	1s. 3d.	1s. 4d.	1s. 6d.	and 1s. 8d.

A Price Current Free. Sugars at Market Prices.

PHILLIPS and CO. send ALL GOODS CARRIAGE FREE, by their own Vans, within Eight Miles of No. 8, King William-street, City; and send Tea, Coffees, and Spices, Carriage Free to any Railway Station or Market Town in England, to the value of 40*s.* or upwards.

**WEBSTER'S CELEBRATED GOOD AND PURE TEAS**, on comparison, will prove very superior to those hitherto advertised as best.

Very Superior Black Tea, 3s., 3s. 2d., and 3s. 4d. Choice, 3s. 6d. The very Best Black Tea Imported, 4s. per lb.—Good Coffee, 1s. 1d. Superior, 1s. 2d. Choice Mocha Coffee, 1s. 3d., 1s. 4d., 1s. 6d. The very Best Old Mocha, 1s. 8d.

OBSERVE!—WEBSTER BROTHERS quote such prices only as the quality justifies them in recommending, and those spoken of as Best are the Best, and better cannot be obtained.

A SAMPLE CHEST forwarded carriage free to any part of England, containing

1 lb. of very Choice Souchong . . . . .	3s. 8d.	£1 2 0
1 lb. of very Choice Gunpowder . . . . .	4s. 6d.	0 4 6
2 lb. of the Best Congou Tea . . . . .	3s. 4d.	0 6 8
2 lb. of Choice Mocha Coffee . . . . .	1s. 6d.	0 4 6

1 lb. of Best Bermuda Arrowroot . . . . . 1s. 4d. £0 1 4

1 lb. of Best Mustard . . . . . 1s. 6d. 0 1 6

£2 0 6

WEBSTER BROTHERS pay carriage on all Orders for Tea, Coffees, and Spices, amounting to £2 and upwards, to any part of England, and deliver goods carriage free, with their own carts, to all parts of London daily.

A Price Current, containing a List of Prices of Teas, Coffees, Spices, Sugars, Fruit, &c., sent post free on application to

WEBSTER BROTHERS, 39, MOORGATE-STREET, CITY, LONDON, E.C.

**EAU-DE-VIE.**—This pure PALE BRANDY, though only 18*s.* per gallon, is demonstrated, upon analysis, to be peculiarly free from acidity, and very superior to recent importations of veritable Cognac. In French bottles, 22*s.* per dozen; or securely packed in a case for the country, 30*s.*

HENRY BRETT and Co., Old Furnival's Distillery, Holborn. To be obtained only at their Distillery.

**KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.**

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow delicious, and very wholesome. Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at most of the respectable retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

**FURTHER REDUCTION of the WINE DUTIES.**—MARSHALL and SON respectfully invite attention to their new Revised List of Prices, which they forward post free on application. They are now selling an excellent BURGUNDY ST. GEORGE, and a really good sound CLARET, at 18*s.* per dozen. Bottles included. Also, first quality CHAMPAGNE, at 60*s.* per dozen. Railway carriage paid upon 5*s.* worth and upwards.

MARSHALL and SON, Foreign Wine and Spirit Merchants, Purveyors to the Queen, Established A.D. 1819, 20, Strand, London, W.C.

**THE CHEAPEST WINES in ENGLAND** at Reduced Duty.

FRENCH PORT, 22*s.* and 24*s.* per dozen.  
CLARET, 24*s.*, 30*s.*, 36*s.* per dozen.  
SHERRY, 21*s.*, 24*s.*, 28*s.*, 32*s.* per dozen.  
PORT, 24*s.*, 28*s.*, 32*s.* per dozen.  
CHAMPAGNE (very superior), 36*s.* per dozen.  
FINEST SCHIEDAM HOLLANDS, 22*s.* per case.  
FINE COGNAC BRANDY, 22*s.* per gallon.  
NONPAREIL BRANDY, 18*s.* per gallon.  
COLONIAL WINES, 24*s.* per dozen.

H. R. WILLIAMS, Importer of Wines and Spirits, 112, Bishopsgate-street Within, City.

**NOTICE.—BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.**  
**LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE** is pronounced by Connoisseurs to be a most agreeable addition to every variety of dish.

\* See the names of LEA and PERRINS upon every Label, Bottle, and Stopper.  
Sold by Messrs. Cross and Blackwell, London; and by Dealers in Sauces generally.

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